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Apr. 5, 1906.]

THE BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

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THE  
**Board of Trade**  
**Journal.**

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VOLUME LII.

January to March, 1906.

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1906.



# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

January 4, 1906.

[No. 475

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 47.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe- { Tientsin	14th Dec., 1905	509
tition with British in ... { Shanghai	5th Oct., 1905	10
Brazilian hemp ... ..	7th Sept., 1905	468
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" recently issued by the Board of Trade...	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 48.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing

Spans.

to supply—

60 feet spans.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 16th January, 1906, after which time no tender will be received.

The Directors of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company are prepared to receive up to noon on Thursday, the 11th January, tenders for the supply in Bombay of 7,000 tons of best South Wales steam coal of one of the following varieties, viz.:—Ferndale, Nixon's Navigation, Albion, Powell Duffryn, or Insole's Cymmer.

The coal is to be in all cases of the best quality mined, to be shipped under inspection on behalf of the Company, and to be delivered in Bombay by 1st March next.

Tenders must be made on forms to be obtained at the offices of the Company, Gloucester House, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., and prices must be quoted in Indian currency per ton delivered. Payment will be made only in Bombay, and for the quantity delivered there, and, if not all shipped in one vessel, as follows, viz.—90 per cent. on each cargo on completion of discharge, and the remaining 10 per cent. on due completion of the contract.

The Directors reserve the right of dividing the contract between any two or more tendering firms, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

The trade in preserved milk between Europe and Burma is enormous, and, says the "Rangoon Gazette," there would seem every likelihood of its assuming still greater proportions. In every part of Upper Burma and the Shan States tinned milk is obtainable, and used by the people as a confection. Some makers go to the extent of printing labels and advertisements in Burmese.

The "Gazette" adds:—"All makers seem to manufacture in Switzerland or Norway. It is strange that no one in Great Britain or Ireland seems to have thought it worth while to compete with Continental manufacturers. Hence, we buy in Rangoon 'Devonshire cream made in Norway.' One would think that the farmers in Devonshire and Cornwall might compete successfully in such an article with Norway or Switzerland. Apparently, they make no attempt to do so, and the whole trade, therefore, goes to the Continent."

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### CANADA.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information to Canadian Trade regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm wish to act as buying agents for Canadian importers of dry goods and millinery.

A London timber agent, possessing a large connection, desires a first-class agency in hardwoods for building purposes.

A Midlands company manufacturing pumps of all kinds are prepared to appoint a suitable Canadian resident agent.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Montreal manufacturers' agent is prepared to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of house furnishing goods, such as enamelled ware, japanned ware, kitchen novelties, and planished tin ware.

A company in Halifax, Nova Scotia, seek agencies in motor cars, engines, hardware, tools, and brass furnishings.

A Montreal leather merchant is in a position to do business in pickled sheep skins, and will be pleased to hear from United Kingdom shippers wishing to develop trade in Canada.

A firm of manufacturers' agents in Montreal are prepared to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of general dry goods and of fancy goods.

A Montreal manufacturer of doors, sashes, and mouldings, asks to be placed in correspondence with United Kingdom buyers of these goods.

A Canadian company buying wall paper and decorations are prepared to hear from United Kingdom manufacturers wishing to develop trade in Canada in these goods.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Tenders will be received at the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide, up till 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 6th February, 1906, for the supply and delivery of—

3,755 tons steel rails, 50 lbs. per lineal yard,  
242 „ fishplates, for 50 lb. rails.

The rails and fishplates are to be delivered upon trucks on a railway wharf at Port Pirie, and upon trucks on jetty at Port Wallaroo, as specified. Customs duty (if any) will be paid by the South Australian Government. Wharfage to be paid by the contractor.

Drawings and specification can be seen, and forms of tender obtained at the Supply and Tender Board Office, and from the

### *Openings for British Trade.*

Chief Storekeeper, Public Stores, Port Adelaide. Copies of drawings and specification can be purchased at 10s. per set. No tender will be recognised unless on the proper printed form.

Tenders may be sent in for either or all of the articles required, and a time must be quoted for delivery of the whole quantity tendered for, the Supply and Tender Board to have the right of accepting a portion or the whole of any tender. Tenders should be endorsed "Tender for rails and fishplates."

The successful tenderer will be required, within seven days of date of notice of acceptance, to make a deposit equal to five per cent. of the total value of the accepted tender as security for the due fulfilment of contract.

Neither the lowest nor any tender necessarily accepted.

#### **CAPE COLONY.**

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 12th December announces that tenders are invited by the Cape Government Railways for the supply of 30,000 hardwood sleepers, 7 feet by 10 inches by 5 inches. Sealed tenders, addressed to the Chairman of the Tender Board, Control and Audit Office, Parliament Street, Cape Town, marked outside "Tender for Sleepers," will be received up to noon on Tuesday, 16th January, 1906.

In connection with the above, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their Correspondent at Cape Town a few copies of the specifications. British traders may obtain copies on application, until the supply is exhausted, at the offices of the Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

#### **LAGOS AND SOUTHERN NIGERIA.**

The "Lagos Standard" of 6th December announces that tenders are invited for the supply to the Governments of Lagos and Southern Nigeria during the twelve months, April, 1906, to March, 1907, of not less than 10,000 tons of coal at the following ports (alternative tenders for three or five years for the same annual quantity, not less than 10,000 tons and up to 15,000 if required, will meet with consideration):—

Ports of Delivery.						Approximate Annual Requirements.	
						Tons.	Tons.
Colony of Lagos	...	...	...	...	...	5,000	to 7,300
	Forcados	...	...	...	...	1,200	" 1,500
	Warri	...	...	...	...	1,200	" 1,500
	Sapele	...	...	...	...	150	" 250
	Akassa	...	...	...	...	600	" 850
Southern Nigeria	Brass	...	...	...	...	150	" 250
	Bonny	...	...	...	...	200	" 350
	Degama	...	...	...	...	150	" 250
	Opobo	...	...	...	...	150	" 250
	Calabar	...	...	...	...	1,200	" 2,500
						10,000 to 15,000	

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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Supplies for all ports must be delivered as required, but arrangements can be made for the delivery at one time of not less than 750 tons at Lagos, and 100 tons at any other port. It is estimated that at least five separate shipments will be necessary owing to the small size of vessel that must be used to cross the Lagos bar.

The coal must be of the best quality double-screened South Wales steam coal (Admiralty Standard). Any dispute as to quality to be decided by reference to an Admiralty Inspector.

The contract is to commence from 1st April, 1906, and the first shipment is to arrive in April. Payments are to be made on delivery of the coal, and tenderers must give security for the due performance of the contract in the sum of 3,000*l.* or deposit first-class securities to that value.

The coal must be supplied in not less than five shipments, one of which must arrive in each quarter of the year.

Tenders are to be sent in sealed envelopes, marked outside "Tenders for Coal Contract," and addressed to the Colonial Secretary, Lagos, from whom any further details can be obtained. If enquiries are made by telegraph, the A B C Code, 5th edition, should be used, and messages addressed to "Fixature, Lagos."

Tenders must be sent so as to be received at the Colonial Secretary's Office on or before the 31st January, 1906.

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**DENMARK.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Captain Boyle) that tenders are invited by the authorities of the Danish State Railways for the supply of 45 7 tons of bolts and rivets, and 77·5 tons of spikes for use in the construction of the Langaa-Silkeborg Railway, in accordance with conditions and drawing, copies of which may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained from the State Railway Construction Office, 10, Reventlowsgade, Copenhagen. Tenders must be sent in to the office named by 2 p.m. on 13th January.

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**NETHERLANDS.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) that tenders will be received up to the 23rd January, 1906, for the construction and delivery, in complete working order, of an iron repairing stage

### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **NETHERLANDS**—*continued.*

for the dry-docks I., II. and III. on the left side of the River Maas, of the following dimensions:—

Length at bottom ...	...	...	31 metres.
„ top ...	...	...	31·616 metres.
Breadth at bottom...	...	...	7 „
„ top ...	...	...	8·016 „
Depth at centre ...	...	...	2·21 „
„ ends ...	...	...	2·44 „

Delivery is to be made on or before 1st October, 1906. Further particulars can be obtained from Messrs. P. van Waesberge and Zoon, Rotterdam, at a cost of fl. 2 (3s. 4d.).

The “*Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels*” states that tenders will shortly be invited by the Agricultural Association of Willemstad for the supply of 100,000 kilogs. of super-phosphate and 6,000 kilogs. of Chili saltpetre, and by the “*Dorpsvereeniging*,” Stavenisse, for the supply of 131,000 kilogs. of superphosphate.

#### **BELGIUM.**

The “*Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels*” of 24th December contains a notice issued by the “*Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux*,” inviting tenders, which will be opened on the 7th February, for the construction of the line from Etalle to Bellefontaine, and the alteration of Etalle station. The estimated cost of the work is 303,037 francs (12,120*l.*), and a deposit of 30,000 francs (1,200*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, should be addressed to the General Manager of the Company, at 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels, where specifications, plans, &c., may be inspected. A copy of the specifications may be obtained on payment of 1 franc from M. Alliaume, rue de Luxembourg, 80, Arlon.

The “*Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels*” of 31st December announces that tenders, which will be opened on 15th January, are invited for supplying the communes of Forêt, Chaudfontaine and Tilff with electric light and motive power for a period of 22 years ending 31st December, 1927. Plans and specifications may be inspected at the offices of the Communal Secretary of Forêt, Prayon (Trooz). Tenders, drawn up in the form set forth in the specifications, addressed to “*M. le Bourgmestre de Forêt*,” must be received not later than 13th January. A deposit of 5,000 frs. (about 200*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

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*Openings for British Trade.*


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**BELGIUM**—*continued.*

The same issue of the "Moniteur" announces that tenders, which will shortly be opened, are invited by the "Direction du Service Spécial de l'Éscaut Maritime, Marché-au-Blé de Zélande, Antwerp," for the construction of a lock and other works below Mechlin, at the estimated cost of 1,088,699 frs. (about 43,547*l.*). A deposit of 55,000 frs. (about 2,200*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) notifies that tenders are invited up to 11 a.m. on the 17th January for the supply of cardboard for the tickets required on the Belgian State Railways. The estimated value of the contract is 43,401 frs. (1,736*l.*), and a deposit of 2,200 frs. (88*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Tenders are also invited up to the 10th January for the supply to the State Railways Administration of office furniture, stationery, and office sundries, &c., in 24 lots.

In each case further information may be obtained, and samples inspected, at the "Service des approvisionnements d'imprimés," rue d' Idalie, 32, Ixelles-Bruxelles.

It is also announced in the "Bulletin" that tenders are invited up to the 15th January for the re-construction of the pont Saint Michel over the Lys at Ghent. Estimated value, 527,365 francs (21,095*l.*); deposit, 30,000 francs (1,200*l.*). Tenders must be sent to the office of "l'hôtel des ponts et chaussées," rue Basse des Champs, 22, Ghent, where further information may be obtained.

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**FRANCE—IVORY COAST.**

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The French "Journal Officiel" of 30th December, contains a Decree authorising the commencement of the work of prolonging the Ivory Coast Railway from Ery-Macougié for a length of 22 kilometres (about 13½ miles).

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**SPAIN.**

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The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 19th December, contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on a date to be announced later, for the supply of the coal required at the Ferrol Arsenal during 1906, in accordance with conditions on view at the above named Arsenal, at the Stores Department of the Ministry of Marine, Madrid, and at the Naval Offices of Gijon and Coruña. A deposit of 5,900 pesetas (about 184*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**SPAIN**—*continued.*

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 24th December contains a Decree sanctioning the expenditure of 8,404,571 pesetas (about 264,992*l.*) on works at the port of San Esteban de Pravia, including the construction of a mole at the mouth of the river Nalón, the amelioration of the bed of the river, and the improvement of the dock.

**Port Works.** The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 28th December contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be received until 9th February, 1906, at the State Tobacco Department, 4, Plaza del Rey, Madrid, for the construction of a tobacco factory at Valencia at the upset price of 1,379,876 pesetas (about 43,597*l.*), in accordance with plans and conditions which may be inspected at the above named office and at the District Office of the Ministry of Finance, Valencia. A deposit of 68,993 pesetas (about 2,179*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

**Building Construction.** The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 30th December contains a notice inviting tenders which will be opened on 1st February at the Directorate of Public Works, Madrid, for the construction of an iron bridge over the river Canero, on the main road from Villalba to Oviedo, in accordance with plans and conditions on view at the above named office, and at the office of the Civil Governor of the Province of Oviedo. The estimated cost of the work is 167,233 pesetas (about 5,307*l.*); a deposit of 10 per cent. is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

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**ITALY.**

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" of 24th December states that Signor Salvatore Orlando, one of the deputies for Leghorn, has submitted to the Royal Commission on Italian Ports a scheme for the improvement of the port of Leghorn. This scheme provides for a thorough reorganisation, for carrying out excavations with a view to deepening the harbour, and for the construction of a large dock on the west. The enlargement of the port is said to be urgently needed, Leghorn being very poorly provided with quays: the annual tonnage of shipping amounts to about 1,100 tons for every metre of quays, while in busier ports it amounts to between 400 and 500 tons.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**ROUMANIA.**

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. **Cigarette Paper.** Chargé d'Affaires at Bucharest (Mr. H. E. Browne) announcing that tenders will be opened on 16th February, 1906, at the Roumanian State Monopolies Department, Bucharest, for the supply, in six lots, of 43,700 reams of cigarette paper of various descriptions. Tenders will be received for one or several lots. A deposit of five per cent. of the value of the goods tendered for is required to qualify any tender.

A copy of the specifications (in French) forwarded by Mr. Browne, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The "Tagblatt" (Bucharest) announces that the Dumbovitz District Council has voted 2,000,000 lei (about 80,000*l.*) for the construction of the Puciosa-Moreni railway. This line will be of great commercial importance, Moreni being one of the richest petroleum districts in the country.

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**MONTENEGRO.**

H.M. Minister Resident at Cetinje (Mr. R. J. Kennedy, C.M.G.) reports that an Italian Syndicate, of which **Port Works and** Signor Volpié, the well-known Financial **Railway** Director of the Tobacco Régie in Montenegro, **Construction.** is the chief promoter, has obtained a concession from the Montenegrin Government to build a breakwater and a quay at Antivari, and to construct a railway from that Port to Vir-Bazaar, on the Lake of Scutari. The conditions of the concession have not been divulged.

This syndicate has, it is stated, a capital of 4,000,000 francs (160,000*l.*). The value of the work to be done at the Port of Antivari is estimated at 1,000,000 francs (40,000*l.*).

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The British Commercial Agent in New York (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) has forwarded a blank proposal form, with **Paints, Oils, &c.** full specifications, for the supply of paints, oils, &c., to the Isthmian Canal Commission, which although time does not permit of British firms tendering, seeing that the contract is to be adjudicated on the 5th January (to-morrow), may be found of interest as indicating the Commissioners' requirements. The specifications, which include full technical descriptions of the paints, &c., may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**MEXICO.**

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 9th December, notifies an application by Señor Alberto Schuler for an appropriation of 10,000 litres of water per second from the river Minas, State of Veracruz, for the production of motive power.

**Hydro-electric  
Plant.**

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**CHILE.**

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 10th November contains a Decree granting the "Compañía General de Electricidad Industrial" a concession for supplying the city of Linares with electric light, heat and motive power.

The "Diario" of 16th November contains a Decree granting the same company a similar concession for Los Angeles.

The "Diario" of 22nd November contains a Decree granting the same company a concession for supplying Providencia with electric heat and motive power.

The duration of the concession in each case is fixed at ten years.

The "Diario" of 18th November notifies an application by Señor Luis Carlos Campusano for permission to construct a railway (75 centimetre gauge) between the Pan de Azucar Bay and the "Mina Arenillas." The length of the proposed line would be about 60 kilometres.

**Railway Plant.**

The same issue of the "Diario" contains a Decree granting Don Eulogio C. Lorca the land necessary for the construction of a railway between the Bay of Blanco Encalada and Imilac, Province of Antofagasta, a distance of 221 kilometres.

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**BRAZIL.**

The Brazilian "Diario Oficial," of 14th December, contains a Decree authorising the Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs to expend 2,600,000 dollars (about 263,250*l.*) on the erection of a building for the National Library.

**Building  
Construction.**

According to the "Brazilian Review," the Companhia Carris de Ferro Porto Alegrense is calling for tenders for the installation of electric power for the tramways of Porto Alegre. Tenders may be sent in up till 1st March, 1906.

**Electric Power  
Installation.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**ARGENTINA.**

Referring to the notice on p. 296 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th November last, the "Review of the Electric Lighting Installations. River Plate" of 1st December, announces that the Rosario Municipality is now inviting tenders for the public lighting of that city. Tenders will be received up to 16th April, 1906.

The "Review" also states that the Bahia Blanca Municipality, in view of the numerous fatal accidents that have been taking place from the defective electric light installations, have resolved that the public and private service be immediately suspended and not renewed until the installations have been changed and the voltage altered. In the meantime the public lighting will be carried out by means of kerosene lamps. It is understood that the whole of the system of mains and installations, power house, &c., is in a most deplorable condition.

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**EXHIBITIONS.**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

With reference to the notice published on p. 55 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th October respecting the exhibition of samples of British goods at the Chicago Consulate, a notification has now been received from H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn) to the effect that Messrs. Hickie, Borman, Grant & Co., of 14, Waterloo Place, London, S.W., have consented to act as forwarding agents for any packages intended for the sample room.

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**ARGENTINA.**

An exhibition of British goods manufactured by some 50 Birmingham firms, who have placed their samples in the charge of an agent sent out for the purpose, was opened in Buenos Ayres on 19th November last, under the auspices of H.M. Minister (Mr. F. D. Harford), through whose good offices the Argentine Government have courteously allowed a portion of a public building (the "Pabellon Argentino") for the exhibition, and have permitted the importation of samples without payment of duty except only in those cases where they may be retained in the country.

The exhibition was to remain open for three months and then would be moved to Rio de Janeiro, where it is understood the Brazilian Government will give similar facilities.

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## LISTS OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF BRITISH GOODS ABROAD.

The Board of Trade receive, from time to time, from H.M. Representatives in foreign countries and their own Correspondents in the Colonies, lists of importers and dealers likely to purchase British goods. These lists may be consulted by British manufacturers and traders at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., to which office also applications for extracts from them should be addressed.

Attention is now called to a list, which has recently been prepared, containing names supplied by H.M. Consular officers in **Spain** and the **Canary Islands**, and dealing with the following towns, viz.:—Almeria, Barcelona, Bilbao, Cadiz, Carril, Cartagena, Corcubion, Cordoba, Corunna, Ferrol, Gijon, Granada, Huelva, Jerez, Madrid, Malaga, Marbella, Seville, Vigo, and Vivero in Spain, and Teneriffe, La Palma and Las Palmas in the Canary Islands. Amongst the classes of goods some or all of which are dealt with in each of the lists are the following:—Building materials, chemical products, coal, cotton, earthenware, fish, general produce, glass and porcelain, groceries, hats, hardware, india-rubber goods, iron and steel, machinery, machine oils, paints, paper, printing materials, sewing machines, silks, silver ware, stationery, tailors' articles, wool and manufactures thereof, &c., &c.

The following similar notices in regard to other recently compiled lists have appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal":—Netherlands, p. 345, 23rd November, 1905; Roumania, p. 586, 28th September; Sweden, p. 393, 31st August; Bulgaria, p. 487, 15th June; Greece, p. 202, 4th May; Belgium, p. 205, 2nd February, 1905.

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## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**Bavaria.**—Referring to the new German Commercial Treaties,\* coming into force on 1st March next, H.M. Consul at Munich (Mr. L. Buchmann), reports that foreign exporters are trying to throw on the German market as many goods as possible under the old tariffs and before the new and higher ones become legal—a course of action that ought not to be overlooked by their British competitors.

In November, 1905, the import into Bavaria, especially that from Austria and Switzerland, increased considerably. The receipts from the Bavarian goods traffic, according to the State Railway Statistics, exceeded that of the same month in 1904 by 37,800*l*.

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\* See p. 441 of "Board of Trade Journal" for 7th December, 1905, and also the new German Tariff, published by the Board of Trade [Cd. 2,414], obtainable from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., price 1*s*. 10*d*.

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*British Trade Abroad.*

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**Russia.**—In reply to an enquiry, the following information as to the supply of agricultural machinery, &c., to the Russian "Zemstvos," or Agricultural Societies, has been furnished by Mr. Cooke, the British Commercial Agent at Moscow:—"On enquiring personally of the official in charge of the Economic Department of the Moscow Zemstvo, responsible for agricultural machinery orders, he informs me that orders for agricultural machinery and implements by the zemstvos generally, as also by the Moscow Zemstvo, are placed privately, and not in any way by public advertisement or by applications for tenders. This is confirmed by articles I have lately read in the official press on the subject of the zemstvo agricultural machinery depôts. The zemstvos are in direct communication with Russian and foreign manufacturers, and whenever possible, only transact business direct with manufacturers, and not with agents or other intermediaries. This enables the zemstvos to supply the peasant buyers at lowest possible prices, in competition with private firms selling similar machinery or implements. This is in accordance with the principles (not commercial) on which the zemstvos act, in the general interests of the peasants.

"The zemstvo officials directly concerned with agricultural machinery and implements, and the expert heads of each agricultural machinery depôt in every district, by now have their regular sources of supply, whether Russian or foreign, and order direct, according to the discretion of the officials concerned, or in accordance with the general demand of purchasers. No public notifications of the requirements of the zemstvos are therefore made."

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### MINERAL INDUSTRY OF NEW ZEALAND.

The following particulars regarding gold and other minerals in New Zealand are taken from the recently issued report of the Department of Mines for 1904:—

As has already been noted in the "Board of Trade Journal" (2nd March, p. 422) the return of **gold** exported for the year ending the 31st December, 1904, shows a falling-off in value (as compared with that of the previous year) of 50,330*l.*, the figures being 1,987,501*l.* for 1904, as against 2,037,831*l.* for 1903, when the highest mark for many years was reached.

In comparing the returns of the several districts it is found that the northern gold fields show the greatest decrease. This may be accounted for by the reduced output of the Crown Mines at Karangahake and several small mines on the Hauraki Peninsula. The decrease reported from the Marlborough, Nelson and West Coast Districts is principally due to the gradual exhaustion of some of the areas where gold is won from alluvial deposits by sluicing,

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*Mineral Industry of New Zealand.*

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and also to a number of dredges having ceased operations on account of the value of gold won not being sufficient to meet all working expenses.

On the other hand, the Southern District (Otago and South Land) shows an increase, valued approximately at 15,912*l.*, as compared with the export returns of 1903. This increase would undoubtedly have been greater still had the conditions as to water-supplies for hydraulic mining and the state of the rivers for gold-dredging been fully up to the average.

**Scheelite** is being worked in the vicinity of Macrae's and Mount Highlay in Otago. As the demand for scheelite containing not less than 60 per cent. of Tungstic acid is steadily increasing, and much greater quantities than have hitherto been available are now being enquired for, the matter is receiving greater attention in the district, and it appears more than probable that the export of this mineral will show a decided increase within the next few years.

Small quantities of **platinum** are obtained at the Round Hill Gold Mining Company's works at Round Hill, South Land. A little is also reported as being present in the wash at the Takaka Hydraulic Claim, but up to the present no attempt has been made to save it commercially.

**Hematite** paint is made from the iron ores of Parapara, and also at Thames. The crude mineral is also supplied from a deposit at one of the South Land lignite mines for use as a pigment for colouring paper at the Mataura Paper Mills.

The **rock-phosphate** deposits near Milton, Otago, are being worked, and the stone, after calcination, is treated at the Burnside Chemical Works and put on the market as a fertiliser.

**Copper.**—The Mineral Belt Copper Mining Company, Limited, commenced operations upon the Aniseed Valley section of their property in January, 1904. So far as can be judged at present they should have no trouble in maintaining a fair grade of output, as assays range from 5 to 26 per cent. of copper, and the ore bodies are anything from 2 feet to 10 feet wide.

Deposits of copper ore are known to exist at several places in both Islands, but their extent and value are, generally speaking, as yet unproved. A syndicate has been formed for the purpose of exploiting the deposits at Moke Creek, near Queenstown, Otago.

**Petroleum.**—A borehole has been put down at Moturoa, near New Plymouth Breakwater, to a depth of 2,100 feet. Before reaching this depth a blower of natural gas and water was met with, and later on the strata drilled through gave evidence of the ground carrying crude petroleum to some extent, the triturated material brought up being quite oily and having a strong smell of petroleum.

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### MATCH INDUSTRY OF ITALY.

The following particulars of the match industry of Italy are taken from an article in the "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Milan, based on an Italian official publication:—

The manufacture of phosphorus matches in Italy dates back to 1831, the first match factory being established at Empoli. This factory is still in existence employing about 50 workmen. The most important centres of the industry are in Piedmont and Tuscany.

In 1880 the exports of wax matches amounted to 9,357 quintals valued at 2,198,825 lire, and 6,079 quintals of wooden matches valued at 243,160 lire. The industry showed a notable development between the years 1881 and 1890; it however received a set-back in 1895 when a law was passed imposing a tax on the manufacture of matches. Before the promulgation of this law there were 489 manufactories of wooden matches and 40 manufactories of wax matches, but this number has since shown a great decrease, and at the present day there are only 220 factories of both kinds. The formation of a company combining over a dozen large firms has brought about the closure of a large number of small factories.

An idea of the large scope of the United Manufacturers' Company, may be gathered from that fact that in 1903-04 its total output amounted to 8,987 million wooden matches and 25,684 million wax matches, the total output of the country being 43,178 million wooden matches and 29,523 million wax matches.

The importation of wooden matches into Italy is very slight, but there is a fairly large import of wax matches. White and red phosphorus used in the manufacture of wax matches comes from Germany, France, and Great Britain. During the years 1902 and 1903 the average import of phosphorus for match making amounted to about 790 quintals. The 216 factories employed during 1903-04 6,699 hands, viz., 1,673 males and 5,026 females. The industry is mainly carried on by hand, very few factories possessing machinery. Amongst the latter, two factories have gas machinery, one hydraulic, ten steam, and one electric.

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### THE HEDJAZ RAILWAY.

The following is a précis translation of certain information relating to the construction and progress of the Hedjaz railway contained in the "Reichsanzeiger" of the 28th December:—

The construction of the Hedjaz railway, also known as the Mecca or Pilgrim railway, was commenced in the spring of 1901, and the first section (460 kilometres) was opened on 1st September, 1904. This railway, the construction of which is being carried out by a German engineer, owes its origin primarily to religious

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*The Hedjaz Railway.*

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causes, but it is anticipated that it will have great importance, both for commercial and military purposes. The work is being carried out as far as possible by Turkish soldiers, about 5,000 in number, and it is estimated that by this means the whole line, with buildings, bridges, &c., may be constructed at an average cost of 1,500 Turkish pounds (1,383*l.*) per kilometre.

The line begins 1 kilometre from Damascus, the town from which the pilgrims start on their journey to Mecca. From Damascus the line proceeds to Kadem and at a point 21 kilometres further, not far from the station of Kisweh, it joins the French Hauran line. From the station of Kisweh the direction lies *viâ* Der-Ali (50 kilometres), Mismieh, Habbab, Mohadjeh, Schahra to Esra (91 kilometres), and thence *viâ* Ghasaleh to Derâo (123 kilometres). The station of Derâo is joined to Meserib, the terminus of the Damascus-Meserib line, by a branch 13·5 kilometres long. From Derâo the Hedjaz line continues to Nassib, Mefrak, Semra, Kalat-es-Serka, Amman (223 kilometres). There is a direct road from Amman over the Jordan and *viâ* Jericho to Jerusalem (two days' journey). From Amman the railway proceeds to Kassir, Lubben, and Djiseh where begins the line (200 kilometres) to Maon and the stations Debaou, Han-Sebib, Katraneh, El Haffa, Djorf-el-Derwisch and Aneseh.

The line is very direct and only swerves from the straight course where the obstacles have been too difficult to surmount. Moreover, it has not been necessary to use any steep gradients, the steepest being 20/1,000 between the Amman and Kassir stations. On the whole section there are 65 larger bridges (one iron and 64 stone), one viaduct with 10 arches, 60 metres long and 20 metres high, and one tunnel 140 metres long. The permanent way is laid on a very strong foundation of basalt and lava, with wooden sleepers in the first half of the line and iron sleepers in the second half. It was found impossible to use wooden sleepers on the whole line owing to the strong action of the sun's rays in certain districts. The rolling stock is for the most part of German origin.

The country traversed by the line is mostly agricultural, but rich deposits of phosphates have been found (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st December, p. 553), and extensive discoveries of bituminous lime and asphalte give hopes of the existence of petroleum. The line from Derâo to Haifa will be, perhaps, the most important section of the whole system, competing as it will with the Lebanon railway to Beirut, and pre-supposing the extension of the harbour at Haifa, it is very probable that the latter port will take the place of the former as the distributing centre for the Syrian trade.

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## FOREIGN IMPORT DUTIES RETURN.\*

A new issue of the "Foreign Import Duties" Return, giving full details of the rates of import duties levied in all the principal European countries, in the United States, Egypt, China, Japan, and Persia, on the principal articles of exportation from the United Kingdom, has just been published. The present Return embodies such alterations in the Customs tariffs of the countries named as have been notified to the Board of Trade since the preparation of the last issue a year ago.

Among the most important alterations in the tariffs of the countries mentioned which have occurred during the year are the publication of an entirely new tariff for **Norway**, affecting the duties on nearly all the articles specified in the Return; alterations in the **Italian** tariff (in force from 1st July last) consequent upon the conclusion of a new Commercial Treaty with Switzerland; and alterations in the **Greek** tariff resulting from the Anglo-Greek Agreement of November, 1904 (in force from July, 1905). Under this Agreement the Greek duties on herrings, cod-fish, confectionery, biscuits, jams, cotton thread for sewing, cotton linings, hemp and jute carpets, coarse jute and hemp tissues, and certain mixed woollen tissues have been reduced. There have also been several other alterations in the Greek tariff affecting the duties on certain kinds of fish, rice, oil colours and varnishes, printing paper and bicycles. Other noticeable alterations affect the Customs Tariff of **Japan**, in which country the additional import duties temporarily levied on certain goods under the head of "War Tax," have in some cases been increased, and have also for the most part been converted from *ad valorem* into specific rates. Japan has also imposed an import duty on rice, while the "consumption" duty which she formerly levied on woollen textiles has been extended to all textiles, the duty being levied at the rate of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* in the case of woollens, and 10 per cent. *ad valorem* in the case of other kinds. It is to be noted, however, that in accordance with the terms of the Law imposing these additional import and "consumption" duties, the duties are to go out of operation on the 31st December, 1906.

**Egypt** now appears in the return for the first time. It is to be noted that the Egyptian import duties, though nominally *ad valorem*—the rate of duty in most cases being a uniform 8 per cent.—are largely levied on a specific basis, the 8 per cent. duty being generally charged, not on the invoice value of the goods imported, but on fixed official valuations. These official valuations are determined at various intervals after consultation between the Customs authorities and the merchants interested in each particular trade, and are noted, as soon as possible after publication, in the "Board of Trade Journal."

\* Reference number, Cd. 2,797. To be purchased at the price of 2s., either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

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*Foreign Import Duties Return.*

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Attention is directed to the fact that an entirely new tariff came into force in **Switzerland** on the 1st inst., and that a new tariff for **Bulgaria** is to come into operation on the 14th inst. The rates of duty given in the return for these two countries are therefore already out of date. Persons interested in trade with Switzerland are referred for information as to existing conditions to the interim statement showing the duties leviable under the new tariff *in its present shape, i.e.*, as modified by the Treaties with Germany and Italy, which has been published as a Parliamentary Paper [Cd. 2,768], and may be obtained from the usual agents at the price of 7d. A further Return giving full details of the new Bulgarian tariff will be published as soon as possible, but in the meantime those interested in trade with the Principality will be able to obtain information as to rates leviable on particular articles on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

New tariffs will also come into force in **Germany**, **Russia**, and **Roumania** on the 1st March. A translation of the new German tariff, as modified by the Commercial Treaties concluded by Germany with all the principal Continental countries, has already been published as a Parliamentary Paper [Cd. 2,414; price 1s. 10d.]. The new Russian and Roumanian tariffs have not yet assumed their final form.

In addition to the alterations in the Italian tariff consequent on the new Treaty with Switzerland (which, as already stated, have been in force since the 1st July), further alterations are to come into force from the 31st March, 1906, in consequence of the conclusion of the new German-Italian Treaty. Particulars of the reduced rates of duty accorded to Germany by this Treaty were published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 3rd August, 1905, and following issues.

With reference to the new tariffs of Bulgaria and Roumania, special attention is directed to the notices appearing at pages 544-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 21st December, and pages 19-23 of the present issue, giving details of the tariff reductions conceded to the United Kingdom as a result of the recent negotiations for new Commercial Conventions with the States named.

It is hoped to publish the 1906 edition of the "Foreign Import Duties" Return as soon as possible after the coming into force of the new tariffs referred to.

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## COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ROUMANIA.

A Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and Roumania was signed on the 31st October last at Bucharest.

The Treaty contains eighteen Articles of which the first four deal with the rights of subjects of the two contracting parties, national treatment being mutually accorded for the carrying on of commerce and navigation and most-favoured-nation treatment for the acquisition and possession of property; exemption from military service and civil functions is also provided for. Articles 5 to 8 deal with the treatment to be accorded to merchandise; mutual most-favoured-nation treatment as regards import and export duties and all prohibitions and restrictions on importation and exportation is provided for; transit duties are prohibited; national treatment is guaranteed in the matter of internal duties; and Article 5 provides for the application of reduced rates of duty to various descriptions of goods of British production in accordance with a schedule annexed to the Treaty.

Articles 9 to 14 relate to navigation, for which national treatment is generally accorded except in the case of coasting trade and fisheries.

Article 15 provides for mutual assistance in the recovery of deserters from ships, and Article 16 contains provisions to enable subsequent modifications to be introduced into the Treaty by common consent. Article 17 deals with the adhesion of the Colonies, and provides that any British Colony may adhere to the Treaty within a year from the exchange of ratifications, and that as regards any such Colony the Treaty may be denounced at any time by 12 months' notice on either side. It is, moreover, provided that the products of any part of the British Empire, whether adhering to the Treaty or not, shall receive full most-favoured-nation treatment in Roumania on condition of treating Roumanian products as favourably as those of any other foreign country.

The Treaty comes into force on the 1st March next, and will remain in operation for four years, and after that indefinitely unless twelve months' notice of denunciation shall have been given by either of the Contracting Parties.

Certain exceptions and reservations are made as regards such matters as sanitary precautions, bounty-fed articles, frontier traffic, special laws for the encouragement of native industry, &c. A Declaration appended to the Treaty also expressly provides that full most-favoured-nation treatment shall be accorded to commercial travellers and their samples, and that Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom shall be recognised as competent authorities for granting the certificates required for such travellers.

The schedule of Tariff reductions in favour of goods of United Kingdom production, which is annexed to the Treaty, is given in full below, comparison being made with the rates of the new Roumanian "General" Tariff. It may be of interest to point out in this connection that considerable reductions on the new

*Commercial Treaty between the United Kingdom and Roumania.*

Roumanian general Tariff were granted to Germany previous to the negotiation between Roumania and the United Kingdom, and that these reductions—of which British goods will, of course, enjoy the benefit under the most-favoured-nation clause—covered a large portion of the important classes of woollen and cotton tissues.

It will be seen that the reductions granted to the United Kingdom cover cotton yarns, certain classes of cotton fabrics, jute yarns and tissues, iron sheets, tin plates, coal, and several other classes of goods in which British trade is interested.

The full list is as follows:—

[100 kilogs. = 220·4 lbs. avoirdupois; Leu (franc) = 9  $\frac{6}{10}$ d.]

No. in New Roumanian Tariff.	Classification of Articles.	Rate of Duty under New Roumanian "General" Tariff.	Rate conceded in favour of British Goods.
		Lei b. Per 100 kilogs.	Lei b. Per 100 kilogs.
68	<i>Manufactures of leather.</i> Transmission belts, flat or round ...	160 00	150 00
	<i>Woollen tissues.</i>		
102	Tissues and stuffs of wool, weighing from 600 to 400 grammes per square metre ...	260 00	175 00
108	Carpets of wool of any form, with or without the warp of any other textile material, excepting the oriental carpets enumerated in Nos. 106 and 107, whether or not cut, hemmed or combined— (a) With cut pile ( <i>tondus</i> ) ... (b) With uncut pile ( <i>bouclés</i> ) ...	130 00	{ 100 00 120 00
	<i>Cereals and products of cereals.</i>		
190	Fine biscuits ( <i>pâtisserie</i> ), for dessert or tea ...	60 00	40 00
	<i>Plants and flowers and their products.</i>		
207	Tea, of any quality ...	75 00	75 00
	<i>Yarns.</i>		
324	Single yarns of jute, abaca, phormium tenax, lime bark, raphia, and other vegetable textile materials not specially mentioned, unbleached, undyed, measuring per kilog.— (a) Up to 4,000 metres ... (b) From 4,000 to 7,500 metres ... (c) Above 7,500 metres ...	12 00 16 00 40 00	8 00 12 00 25 00
325	The same, bleached or dyed ...	{ Duty on unbleached according to class, plus 6 lei per 100 kilogs.	{ Duties on unbleached with an addition of 5 lei per 100 kilogs.
<i>Ex 333</i>	Cotton yarn, single, unbleached, undyed, measuring per kilog.— (a) 41,000 metres or less ...	Per 100 kilogs. 35 00* 44 00†	Per 100 kilogs. { 12 00

\* 31,000 metres or less.

† From 31,000 metres to 41,000 metres.

## Commercial Treaty between the United Kingdom and Roumania.

No. in New Roumanian Tariff.	Classification of Articles.	Rate of Duty under New Roumanian "General" Tariff.	Rate conceded in favour of British Goods.
	<i>Yarns—continued.</i>		
	Cotton yarn, single, unbleached, undyed, measuring per kilog. ( <i>continued</i> )—	Lei b. Per 100 kilogs.	Lei b. Per 100 kilogs.
<i>Ex 333 contd.</i>	(b) From 41,000 to 55,000 metres {	44 00*	{ 20 00
	(c) From 55,000 to 81,000 metres ...	55 00†	{ 30 00
	(d) From 81,000 to 121,000 metres .	65 00	{ 50 00
334	The same, bleached ... ..	Duty on unbleached according to class, with an addition of 20 per cent.	Duty on unbleached according to class, with an addition of 20 per cent.
335	The same, dyed or printed ... ..	Duty on unbleached according to class, with an addition of 50 per cent.	Duty on unbleached according to class, with an addition of 50 per cent.
336	The same, mercerised ... ..	Duty on unbleached according to class, with an addition of 60 per cent.	Duty on unbleached according to class, with an addition of 60 per cent.
337	Cotton yarn, of two or more threads, single twist ... ..	Duty on the single yarns of which composed, plus 8 lei per 100 kilogs.	Duty on the single threads of which composed, plus 8 lei per 100 kilogs.
333	Cotton yarn, of four or more threads, multiple twist ... ..	Duty on the single yarns of which composed, plus 16 lei per 100 kilogs.	Duty on the single threads of which composed, plus 16 lei per 100 kilogs.
339	Cotton thread, prepared for sewing, in balls, or on cards or reels, or in any other form for retail sale, undyed ...	Per 100 kilogs. 75 00	Per 100 kilogs. 50 00
340	The same, mercerised, dyed ... ..	100 00	60 00
	<i>Tissues, ribbons, trimmings.</i>		
<i>Ex 350</i>	Tissues of jute, unbleached, undyed, having in warp and weft together in a square of 2 cms.—		
	(a) Up to 36 single threads, whether or not with coloured stripes and checks ... ..	8 00	8 00
	(d) Carpets and mats, of jute, cocoa fibre, and similar textile materials not specially mentioned, whether dyed or printed, or not ... ..	80 00	60 00
358	Cotton tissues of all kinds except those specially mentioned, unbleached, undyed, weighing over 180 grammes per square metre—		
	(a) Having, in warp and weft together, up to 35 threads per square cm.... ..	75 00	55 00
	(b) Having 36 to 55 threads per square cm. ... ..	100 00	65 00
	(c) Having more than 55 threads per square cm. ... ..	125 00	100 00

\* From 41,000 metres to 51,000 metres.

† From 51,000 metres to 81,000 metres.

*Commercial Treaty between the United Kingdom and Roumania.*

No. in New Roumanian Tariff.	Classification of Articles.	Rate of Duty under New Roumanian "General" Tariff.	Rate conceded in favour of British Goods.
	<i>Tissues, ribbons, trimmings</i> (contd.)—		
<i>Ex</i> 359	Cotton tissues of all kinds, except those specially mentioned, unbleached, undyed, weighing from 180 to 100 grammes per square metre—	Lei b. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>	Lei b. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>
	(b) Having from 41 to 70 threads per square cm. ... ..	165 00	75 00
	(c) Having more than 70 threads per square cm. ... ..	175 00	120 00
<i>Ex</i> 360	Cotton tissues of all kinds, except those specially mentioned, unbleached, undyed, weighing from 100 to 70 grammes per square metre—		
	(c) Having more than 80 threads per square cm. ... ..	200 00	130 00
362	Cotton tissues enumerated in Nos. 358 to 361, bleached ... ..	Duty on unbleached tissues, according to class, with an addition of 20 per cent.	Duty on unbleached tissues, according to class, with an addition of 20 per cent.
363	The same, dyed in one colour ... ..	Duty on unbleached tissues, according to class, with an addition of 30 per cent.	Duty on unbleached tissues, according to class, with an addition of 20 per cent.
364	The same, printed or dyed in two or more colours ... ..	Duty on unbleached tissues, according to class, with an addition of 40 per cent.	Duty on unbleached tissues, according to class, with an addition of 20 per cent.
<i>Ex</i> 368	Tulles for curtains, bedspreads, furniture covers, &c., common, <i>i.e.</i> , with straight warp—		
	(a) Having up to 4 threads per cm. of width ... ..	<i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>	<i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>
369	Tulles and guipures for curtains, bedspreads, furniture covers, &c., fine, <i>i.e.</i> , with mesh of network, with designs, with combinations of spots ...	140 00	100 00
<i>Ex</i> 371	Tulles, properly so-called, of any vegetable textile material, without designs, and having in 1 cm. of width or length—	400 00	300 00
	(a) Less than 7 meshes ... ..	500 00	350 00
<i>Ex</i> 381	<i>Hosiery, lace-work and embroidery.</i> Lace of all kinds of vegetable textile material, whether or not combined one with another, of any width, by measure or by the piece—		
	(a) Machine made ... ..	600 00	400 00
	<i>Made-up articles and articles of millinery.</i>		
383	Bags of jute, made of the tissues specified in No. 350a ... ..	Duty on the tissue with an addition of 1 leu per 100 kilogs.	Duty on the tissue with an addition of 1 leu per 100 kilogs.

*Commercial Treaty between the United Kingdom and Roumania.*

No. in New Roumanian Tariff.	Classification of Articles.	Rate of Duty under New Roumanian "General" Tariff.	Rate conceded in favour of British Goods.
443	<i>Manuscripts and printed matter.</i> Note 2.—Catalogues and price lists, illustrated or not, either in Roumanian or foreign languages, whether or not in boards or bound, are free of duty.	Lei b.	Lei b.
<i>Ex</i> 579	<i>Mineral products and metals.</i> Coal and coke ... ..	<i>Per 100 kilogs.</i> 0 60	<i>Per 100 kilogs.</i> 0 20
<i>Ex</i> 590	<i>Iron.</i> Sheets and plates of iron, corrugated or not, rolled, without other preparation, having a thickness of— (b) From 2 mm. to $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ... .. (c) Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.... ..	8 50 12 00	5 00 6 00
591	The same, tinned, galvanised, or coated with lead, copper or brass, polished, having a thickness of— (a) 1 mm. or more ... .. (b) From 1 mm. to $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ... .. (c) Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. ... ..	11 00 12 50 15 00	7 00 7 50 8 00
<i>ex</i> 622	<i>Articles of sheet iron.</i> Safes and strong-boxes, with or without fire-proof material, painted, ornamented— (a) Weighing 300 kilogs. and over each... ..	40 00	<i>Per 100 kilogs. gross.</i> 25 00
784	<i>Chemical products.</i> Caustic soda ... ..	5 00	<i>Per 100 kilogs.</i> 0 50
786	Oxide and peroxide of barium, oxide of antimony, oxide and all other salts of cobalt, and all other mineral oxides...	30 00	25 00
<i>Ex</i> 788	Carbonate of soda, crystallised or calcined ... ..	3 00	0 50
845	<i>Colours and varnishes.</i> Oil and siccative varnishes, coloured or not ... ..	60 00	50 00
846	Alcoholic varnish, coloured or not ...	75 00	60 00
847	Prepared varnishes, without vegetable oil or alcohol, coloured or not, such as asphalt varnish, turpentine varnish, petroleum varnish, and varnish for harness and paper ... ..	45 00	40 00

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

With reference to the Notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 9th March, 1905, relating to the method of the payment of import duty on catalogues and all advertising matter despatched to Australia, the Board of Trade have now received, from the Agent-General for Victoria, a copy of the most recent Regulations affecting the importation of advertising matter into the Commonwealth.

These Regulations, being of importance to British trade, are given *in extenso*, as follows:—

#### *Duty on Advertising Matter.*

1. Advertising matter is dutiable at 3*d.* per lb., under item 122 (A) of the Tariff.

2. Duty at this rate is levied on catalogues, price lists, trade circulars, and all similar advertising matter, introduced through the post, even when forwarded in single copies addressed to individuals, provided that the total weight of such single copies forwarded by any consignor by any one mail to any one State of the Commonwealth is not less than (4) four lbs. in weight. *Vide* paragraph 4.

3. The duty may be paid by any of the methods specified hereunder:—

(a) The weight of any one mail may be bulked by the consignor and duty at 3*d.* per lb. remitted in one sum to the Deputy Postmaster-General of the State to which the catalogues, &c., are addressed.

(b) Duty may be paid on total weight of any one mail by the consignor's agent in the Commonwealth.

(c) If neither of the above methods be followed, duty is collected upon the packet containing the catalogues, &c., according to the following scale:—

Up to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz.	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i>
„ 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	...	...	...	...	1 <i>d.</i>
„ 9 oz.	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i>
„ 12 oz.	...	...	...	...	2 <i>d.</i>
„ 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	...	...	...	...	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>d.</i>
„ 16 oz.	...	...	...	...	3 <i>d.</i>

4. In cases where the total duty on any one mail addressed by any one consignor to any one State of the Commonwealth does not exceed 1*s.* the payment of duty is waived.

5. It may also be mentioned that duty at 3*d.* per lb. is levied on "insets" introduced in magazines, &c., whether the "insets" are loose or fastened into the magazines, &c. This does not, of course, apply to ordinary advertising pages of magazines, &c., and is subject to the rule laid down in paragraph 4.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### NEW ZEALAND.

The Board of Trade have received copies of Orders (Nos. 787 and 788) which have been issued by the Commissioner of Trade and Customs under date of 11th October and 1st November last respectively, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand.

The following are the principal decisions given :—

Articles, and how classed.	Rate of Import Duty.
ORDER NO. 787.	
*Air-brake for electric car—	
As tramway plant, n.o.e. ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
ORDER NO. 788.	
Freezers, small, for making iced drinks—	
As hardware ... ..	20 % „
Indiarubber shower bath, portable—	
As n.o.e. ... ..	Free.
Knives, leather-splitting, in iron frame—	
As artificers' tools ... ..	Free.
Machines, lace-making (claimed free as a knitting machine)—	
As machinery, n.o.e. ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Pinions for electric motor-car axles, imported unattached to the axles—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal ... ..	20 % „
Uniforms for volunteer corps for which individual measurements have been sent to tailors abroad—	
As apparel made to order ... ..	40 % „

\* Revised decision.

### MAURITIUS.

With reference to a notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 29th June, 1905, respecting certain regulations affecting the importation of cattle from Madagascar into Mauritius, as laid down in Proclamation No. 17 of 1905, the Board of Trade have now received from the Collector of Customs at Port Louis, a copy of a further Proclamation (No. 67 of 1905) repealing the previous Proclamation No. 17 of 1905, and, at the same time, providing amended regulations, in consequence of the prevalence of cattle plague in certain parts of Madagascar.

The present Proclamation provides for the absolute prohibition of the importation of bovines, their litter and manure from all places situated in the Provinces of Tuléar, Fianarantsoa, and Farafangana, and in the military circles of the Mahalfy and of Fort Dauphin into the Colony of Mauritius.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**RUSSIA.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that regulations have been issued prohibiting the importation of arms (with the exception of sporting guns) into Russia from foreign countries or from Finland, except in cases where a special permit has been obtained from the Ministry of the Interior by the firm or persons desiring to import them.

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**GERMANY.**

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 594 of last week's "Journal," on the subject of the German Law authorising the Bundesrath to continue the accord of most-favoured-nation treatment to the United Kingdom and British Possessions for a further period of two years, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a notification was issued by the Bundesrath on the 28th December, in virtue of this Law, continuing until further notice the conditions hitherto in force under their notification of the 11th June, 1901.

[The notification referred to extended to subjects and products of the United Kingdom, and of British Colonies and Possessions other than Canada, the same privileges as are granted to the subjects and products of the most-favoured nation].

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**FRANCE.**

A recent French Customs Circular contains lists of the medicinal preparations the importation of which into France is authorised and prohibited respectively. The list of permitted preparations shows also the duties leviable thereupon. These lists, which include the various additions made since the issue of the former lists in 1897, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The quantity of vanilla which may be imported into France from French establishments in Oceania, under special conditions, during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1906, has been fixed, by a French Presidential Decree of 2nd November last, at 20,000 kilogs.

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### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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#### FRANCE—*continued.*

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 22nd December contains the text of a Law altering the import duties on  
**Tariff Alterations.** certain articles under the French Tariff as from the 1st January. The articles affected are:—

Condensed milk; cheese; silk for sewing, embroidery, &c.; silk tissues and silk hosiery; embroideries; watches and parts thereof; musical boxes; hydraulic engines, pumps and fans; refrigerating apparatus; arc lamps; and certain electrical machinery and apparatus and parts thereof.

The alterations (with a few minor exceptions) involve a reversion to the rates of duty established by the Tariff of 1892, the reduced rates consequent on the conclusion of the Franco-Swiss Convention of 1895\* being, for the most part, superseded.

It is provided by Article 2 of the Law that the new duties are to cease to be applicable, as regards the "minimum" Tariff, on the 1st April; while Article 3 authorises the Government to suspend the new rates, wholly or partially, by Decree.

A complete statement of the alterations effected by this Law will be published in next week's issue of the "Journal."

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#### FRANCE—ALGERIA.

A Presidential Decree of the 14th November last directs the  
**Establishment of** establishment of a Customs warehouse (*entrepôt*  
**new Customs** *réel*) at Lalla-Marnia, in the Department of  
**Warehouse.** Oran, Algeria.

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#### ROUMANIA.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 31 of the  
**Exportation of** "Board of Trade Journal" for the 5th October  
**Maize Permitted.** last, the Board of Trade have now received  
 information, through the Foreign Office, to the  
 effect that a Royal Decree has been issued authorising the removal  
 of the prohibition against the exportation of maize from Roumania.  
 The Decree is already in force.

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#### MEXICO.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 20th November, contains a  
**Increased Scale** Decree increasing the scale of fees for the  
**of Consular Fees.** certification of consular invoices laid down by  
 the Decree of 18th May, 1905 (see pp. 552-4  
 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd June last).

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\* For a list of these reduced rates, see the "Board of Trade Journal" for August, 1895, pp. 163-6.

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

The fees for the certification of each set of consular invoices are now fixed as follows:—

	Pesos.
(a) If the value of the goods declared in the invoice does not exceed 100 pesos, Mexican currency ...	3·00
(b) Exceeds 100, but does not exceed 500 pesos ...	6·00
(c) „ 500 „ „ 1,000 „ ...	3·00
(d) „ 1,000 pesos:	
(1) For the first 1,000 pesos in excess ...	8·00
(2) For every further 1,000 pesos or fraction thereof in excess ...	2·50

The scale of fees will be based on the value of the goods as declared by the person despatching them. This value is to be set out in the currency of the country where the invoice is drawn up, for conversion into Mexican currency by the Mexican Consul or Consular Agent (see “Board of Trade Journal” of 10th August last, p. 279).

The Decree provides for the enforcement of the new scale from 1st January, 1906.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### EGYPT—SUDAN.

The “Sudan Gazette,” of 1st December, contains a revised list of passenger and goods rates which will come into force on the Sudan Government Railways on the opening of the Red Sea Line.

The “Gazette” may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### GERMANY.

According to the “Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie” (Berlin), the “Atlas” Steamship Company of Bremen propose to institute two regular steamship lines (1) between Bremen/Rotterdam and Malta, Piræus, Smyrna, Salonica, Dedeagatch, Constantinople, and Odessa; and (2) between Bremen/Rotterdam (eventually also Antwerp) and Alexandria and Beirut (eventually also Alexandretta, Mersina, and Smyrna, returning *via* Greece). The vessels will be newly built, express and first-class, and arrangements have been made with the German railways for through bills of lading from

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*Shipping and Transport.*

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any German station to any of the above ports. For goods *viâ* Rotterdam arrangements will be made for through freights from and to all Rhine ports. Transhipment may be made at any of the above ports for all other ports in Greece, Asia Minor, the Black Sea, Syria and Egypt.

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY, BELGIUM, FRANCE,  
GERMANY, NETHERLANDS.**

A reference is given on p. 43 to a publication just issued by the Foreign Office containing further reports from H.M. Representatives in Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands, on navigable inland waterways in those countries.

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**MOROCCO.**

According to "El Africa Española" (Tangiers), arrangements are being made for the establishment of a regular steamship line under the Spanish flag between Tangiers, Ceuta and Tetuan.

The vessels are to be of low tonnage and light draught in order to navigate the new Ceuta canal and thus to join the two bays.

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**BRAZIL.**

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires in Brazil (Mr. H. C. Lowther), forwarding copy and translation of a Decree published in the "Diario Oficial" of the 29th November, regulating the commercial river traffic in the States of Para and Amazonas by means of the establishment at St. Antonio do Rio Madeira of a public dépôt for the deposit and safe keeping of merchandise in transit for Bolivia.

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**JAPAN-ARGENTINA.**

The monthly report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce states that, owing to the efforts of the Argentine Chargé d'Affaires in Japan, the "Compagnie des Chargeurs Réunis" have inaugurated a steamship service round the world, the vessels calling regularly at Buenos Ayres on their way from Yokohama to Europe *viâ* San Francisco. The freight rate from Yokohama to Buenos Ayres is 65s. per ton (40 cubic feet).

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## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The following table, compiled by the Government geologist, and forwarded to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade by Mr. E. A. Nowell, clerk of the Executive and Legislative Council of Tasmania, shows, as far as can be ascertained, the quantities and values of metals and minerals produced in Tasmania in the quarters ending 31st March and 30th June, 1905:—

	March Quarter, 1905.		June Quarter, 1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Gold,* fine, won ... .. Ozs.	16,170	68,657	17,696	75,170
Silver and lead ore,† raised... Tons	17,701	54,896	14,940	53,034
Blister copper,† produced ... .. "	1,907	152,778	1,981	157,732
Copper ore and native copper produced ... .. "	215	11,903	319	13,865
Tin ore ... .. "	928	82,662	741	61,882
Iron ore ... .. "	1,600	700	1,700	700
Coal ... .. "	13,283	11,291	12,372	10,516
Wolfram ore ... .. "	9	747	7	480
Bismuth ore ... .. Cwts.	15	200	—	—
Total value... .. "	—	383,864	—	373,379

\* Including gold contained in blister copper and silver lead bullion.

† Value of gold contents deducted.

### FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Referring to the notice on p. 460 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th December last, the French "Journal Officiel" of 23rd December contains the text of the new mining regulations adopted by the General Council of New Caledonia. The following taxes are to be levied on all mining concessions:—Concessions for various ores, 75 centimes per hectare, or fraction thereof, up to 500 hectares, and 1.50 fr. per hectare, or fraction thereof, over 500 hectares; concessions for combustible minerals, 50 centimes per hectare or fraction thereof.

The full text of the regulations may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.***ITALY.**

Referring to the notice on p. 602 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal," the "Rassegna Mineraria" publishes the following more detailed statement of the mineral and metal production of Italy for 1903 and 1904. The figures are in metric tons except where otherwise stated:—

	1903.	1904.
<b>Ores—</b>	<b>Metric Tons.</b>	<b>Metric Tons</b>
Antimony ... ..	6,927	5,712
Silver ... ..	405	143
Arsenic ... ..	50	80
Iron ... ..	374,790	409,460
Manganese ... ..	1,930	2,836
Quicksilver ... ..	55,528	60,403
Gold ... ..	5,734	6,746
Lead ... ..	42,443	42,846
Copper ... ..	114,823	157,503
Sulphur ... ..	3,690,532	3,539,444
Zinc ... ..	157,521	148,365
<b>Metals—</b>		
Pig and cast iron .. ..	90,744	112,598
Wrought iron ... ..	177,392	181,335
Rolled steel ... ..	154,134	177,086
Tinned plates ... ..	11,275	16,645
Antimony ... ..	905	836
Silver ... .. kilograms.	24,388	24,943
Mercury ... ..	312	352
Gold ... .. kilograms.	63	10
Lead ... ..	22,126	23,475
Copper and its alloys ... ..	11,217	11,873
Tin ... ..	15	15
Zinc ... ..	126	189
<b>Non-metallic—</b>		
Boric acid ... ..	2,583	2,624
Coal, lignite, &c. ... ..	346,887	362,151
Graphite ... ..	7,920	9,765
Crude petroleum ... ..	2,486	3,543
Pyrite ... ..	101,455	112,004
Asphaltic rock ... ..	89,078	111,390
Asphalt, mastic and bitumen ... ..	35,757	30,817
Coal briquettes ... ..	724,993	903,610
Crude sulphur ... ..	553,751	527,563
Refined sulphur ... ..	139,464	163,695
Ground sulphur ... ..	139,376	189,266
Pulverised talc... ..	6,300	6,740

The total value of the 1904 output was 294,472,153 lire (about 1,778,886*l.*), an increase of 20,799,959 lire (831,998*l.*) over that of the previous year.

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*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

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**MEXICO.**

Adverting to the notice on p. 371 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th August last respecting a  
**Modification of Stamp Tax on Gold and Silver.** reduction in the tax on metallurgical establishments refining gold and silver, a despatch has been received from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Mexico City (Mr. W. G. Max Müller) enclosing translation of a further Decree, dated 24th November, 1905, by which the incidence of the stamp tax is once more modified in the following manner:—

In the first place, the degree of purity to which silver bars must be refined in order to enjoy the *ad valorem* rate of taxation of one and a-half per cent., has been reduced from nine hundred and ninety-nine to nine hundred and ninety-six parts of pure metal in a thousand, and, in like manner, the degree of purity for gold bars, taxable at the same rate, has been reduced from nine hundred and ninety-nine to nine hundred and ninety-four parts of pure metal in one thousand, the order involving the last mentioned reduction appearing in Article 2 of a Decree issued on the 23rd November, relating to the coinage of gold.

Secondly, the refineries producing bars of the precious metals of the respective purities indicated above, will be entitled to the reimbursement of three quarters of the amount of the one and a-half per cent. Internal Stamp Tax represented by the cancelled stamps affixed to the corresponding documents covering the mineral or bars purchased by the refineries for treatment, or in other words, the actual amount of taxation on bars fulfilling the required conditions is reduced from one and a-half per cent. to three-eighths per cent., provided that the request for the refund of the rebate be made within six months from the date of the cancelling of the corresponding revenue stamps. Article 4 of the Law of the 25th March, 1905, and the Decree of June 19th, 1905, are annulled by the present Decree. The Decree came into effect on the 1st January, 1906.

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**BRAZIL.**

The "Brazilian Review" announces that the gas company at Porto Alegre may now employ only native coal, under a  
**Brazilian Coal.** clause in its contract. The coal from Arroio dos Ratos has lately been examined by Mr. Stanley James, representing an English syndicate, and he declares it to be excellent.

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## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 30th December, 1905, were as follows:—

Corn Prices.	Wheat	...	...	...	28s.	3d.
	Barley	...	...	...	24s.	7d.
	Oats	...	...	...	18s.	1d.

For further particulars see p. 40.

Statements are published on pp. 41-2, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the weeks ended the 23rd and the 30th December, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding weeks of 1904.

#### Imports of Agricultural Produce.

### CEYLON.

An extraordinary issue of the "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 12th December, contains the text of the recent Address of His Excellency Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., to the Legislative Council of Ceylon. With regard to agriculture, Sir Henry Blake stated that the most remarkable development of any agricultural product during the year has been the extension of rubber cultivation, from which large profits have been derived. The Botanic Department estimates that there are now 40,000 acres planted. Valuable experiments are being conducted in methods of tapping and preparing rubber, which should largely increase the present yield and at a reduced cost.

Experiments are being made in cotton-growing in the North-Central Province and in sericulture near Peradeniya, while it is proposed that an expert in tobacco cultivation shall during 1906 experiment with a view of improving the quality of Ceylon tobacco, of which a large quantity of inferior flavour is now grown in the Northern and parts of the North-Western Province.

The year was remarkable for the number of experiments made, and the new fields opened to agriculturists for experiment, by the improved means of communication of agricultural knowledge and the development of new planting industries.

Attempts were made to encourage experimental leases by calling for tenders for the lease of blocks of land for fifty years for experimental cultivation in rubber and cotton on easy terms (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January, 1905, pp. 12-13), the minimum rent being 50 cents per acre per annum. When the advertisement first appeared the opening up of land in the Western and Sabaragamuwa Provinces for rubber cultivation had not

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proved to be so remunerative an investment as it afterwards appeared. Its success deprived applications for land in these Provinces of their speculative and experimental character. A large number of applications under the advertisement had to be rejected on this ground. A number of blocks, some of large extent, ranging up to one of 2,000 acres, are being leased in Uva, the North-Western, North-Central, and Southern Provinces.

Three blocks of 1,000 acres each were offered on specially easy pioneer terms for the cultivation of cocoanuts in the North-Central Province without irrigation. One of the successful applicants has started operations. The other two have abandoned their proposals.

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**

The following table, showing the total yield of the principal crops and the quantity of wine made in Western Australia for the season ended 28th February, 1905, with corresponding figures for the preceding season, is taken from the Annual Report of the Perth (Western Australia) Chamber of Commerce:—

						Season ended 28th February.	
						1904.	1905.
Grain crops —							
Wheat	...	...	...	...	Bushels	1,876,252	2,005,146
Maize	...	...	...	...	"	2,487	867
Oats	...	...	...	...	"	258,503	226,556
Barley	...	...	...	...	"	53,227	37,801
Rye	...	...	...	...	"	3,970	4,549
Dry peas and beans	...	...	...	...	"	7,342	8,529
Hay of all kinds	...	...	...	...	Tons	121,934	114,033
Potatoes...	...	...	...	...	"	4,542	5,607
Root crops—							
Onions	...	...	...	...	"	342	247
All other root crops	...	...	...	...	"	743	1,012
Wine	...	...	...	...	Gallons	133,371	187,000

**ITALY.**

According to figures obtained by the "Giornale Vinicolo Italiano" from authorities in the various wine-producing districts, the wine production of Italy this year amounts to 32,445,000 hectolitres. The "Giornale" compares this with an average production of 43,803,000 hectolitres.

Hectol. = 22 Imperial gallons.

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## *Agriculture.*

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### GREECE.

The French Chargé d'Affaires at Athens reports that according to information furnished by the Minister of the Interior, the production of silk in Greece in 1905 amounted to 45,000 kilos., as compared with 40,000 kilos. in the preceding year.

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### CHINA.

H.M. Consul-General at Canton (Mr. J. Scott), in forwarding a report on trade at Pakhoi, remarks that a notable feature of the trade since 1902 is the growth of the export of raw yellow silk. The silk comes from the villages of HsiKang and Chang-to near Lienchow, and from Hsiaotung in the neighbourhood of Chinchow. The average export is now between 200 and 300 piculs per annum, as compared with 33.42 and 47 piculs in the years 1900 and 1902 respectively. The market price in Hong Kong is said to be about 450 dols. per picul, the Chinchow article usually fetching 50 dols. more per picul than that of Lienchow. Recently there has been some word of a local merchant starting mulberry and silk-worm culture at Lienchow in the hope of further developing the trade.

Picul =  $133\frac{1}{3}$  lbs. avoirdupois.

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### JAPAN.

According to the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce Monthly Report, the Japanese Government contemplates establishing a Remount Bureau, composed of Commissioners from the Army, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the Treasury. Detailed plans have been drawn up, the gist of which is that horse-breeding is to be modelled after that obtaining in certain foreign countries. Seventeen years is reckoned as the period required within which to effect the desired change, and it will require a sum of 20,000,000 yen (about 2,040,000*l.*). It is intended to have one million and a half horses throughout the country at the end of the prescribed period, every one of which will be from foreign stock, especially from Austro-Hungarian breeds. Every year a certain number of stallions are to be imported for the purpose, and the number of breeding stations increased in proportion.

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 28th December, 1905, **Cotton Statistics.** was 158,835 (including 18 bales British West Indian and 66 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 52 weeks ended the 28th December was 4,431,878 (including 4,146 bales British West Indian and 3,874 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 28th December, 1905, 5,386 bales, and for the 52 weeks, 410,645.

For further details see p. 40.

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### TRANSVAAL.

The Board of Trade have received from the Colonial Office copy of Transvaal Ordinance No. 23 of 1905, which **Commercial Travellers' Licences.** repeals the provisions of Ordinance No. 50 of 1902 (see pp. 319-20 of "Board of Trade Journal for 12th February, 1905), and imposes a licence duty on agents and representatives in the Transvaal of manufacturing or trading establishments carrying on business outside that colony. These terms include "any person who in any way advertises or holds himself out as the authorised representative or agent of such manufacturing or trading establishment outside the colony, and who solicits, receives or takes orders for the sale or supply of goods by such manufacturing or trading establishment to persons in the colony": they do not, however, include persons liable to licence duty as general dealers, *i.e.*, who re-sell such goods from stock. The amount of the licence duty payable by agents of firms not domiciled in the Transvaal is 10*l.* per year or 6*l.* per half-year; in the case of licences issued at dates other than the commencement of the year or half-year, a proportionate charge is made for the period up to the 30th June or 31st December.

The Ordinance also fixes the amount of licence duty payable in the Transvaal by auctioneers, brokers, general dealers, boards of executors, banking companies, persons owning boilers, &c.

A copy of the Ordinance, which came into force on the 1st January, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

In response to an enquiry on the subject, the Registrar of Imports and Exports at Singapore (Mr. A. Stuart) **Sheep and Goats.** states that the number of sheep and goats imported into the Straits Settlements were in 1903, sheep 29,354, goats 14,781, and in 1904, sheep 31,438,

*Miscellaneous.*

goats 12,482, these being entirely for local consumption and export.

No wool is exported from the Colony, but is transhipped at Singapore from Western Australia. The skins of animals killed in the Straits Settlements are sent to Hongkong and Madras, and also cured locally.

**BALUCHISTAN.**

The following figures relating to the trade which passed through the Quetta-Seistan route during the year 1904-5 have been furnished by the Government of India.

**Trade via the  
Quetta-Seistan  
Route in 1904-5.**

	1903-04.		1904-5.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Afghanistan ... ..	2,04,292	75,486	3,55,231	1,07,208
Persia ... ..	2,12,226	2,94,128	2,23,098	3,23,174
Baluchistan ... ..	58,953	1,95,373	1,22,842	4,90,064
Totals ... ..	4,75,471	5,64,987	7,01,171	9,20,446

**EGYPT.**

The "Journal" of the British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt, in the course of an article on the Egyptian egg trade, gives the following figures showing the number and value of the eggs sent out of the country during the last two years, from which it will be seen that the trade is by no means an insignificant one :—

	Number of Eggs in 1000's.		Value.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
			£E	£E
United Kingdom ... ..	83,730	70,523	104,766	95,206
Austria ... ..	4,003	1,613	5,005	2,177
France ... ..	7,112	1,539	7,879	2,077
Other countries ... ..	1,738	967	2,177	1,306
	93,583	74,642	119,817	100,766

The period during which the eggs are exported commences at the beginning of November and ends about the middle of March, the whole of the shipments being made through Alexandria.

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*Miscellaneous.*

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The main source of the supply for export purposes is Upper Egypt, one of the principal districts being from Balirna to the Fayoum. The eggs are bought from the natives by local men who travel from village to village in much the same way as is done in England.

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

According to a memorandum issued by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States Department of Commerce and Labour, no feature of the export trade of the United States in 1905 has shown a larger growth than that of the trade with China and Japan. In the ten months ending with October, exports to China are more than 50 million dollars in value, against 20 millions in the same months of 1904 and 13 millions in the corresponding months of 1903; and those to Japan are 46½ millions, against a little less than 22 millions for the same period in 1904 and 16 millions in the corresponding months of 1903. Thus, in the case of Japan, exports have more than doubled as compared with 1904, and practically trebled as compared with 1903, while in the case of China exports are two and one-half times as much in 1904, and have practically quadrupled since 1903.

Increase in exports from the United States to each of these countries occurs in a large proportion of the articles of export to that part of the world. To China the growth is especially marked in copper, cotton cloths, flour, sewing machines, locomotives, paper, canned beef, manufactures of tobacco, and lumber, though cotton cloth and copper are by far the most important of these items. To Japan the growth occurs in flour, carriages and other vehicles, raw cotton, electrical machinery, sewing machines, locomotives, leather, paper, canned beef, tobacco, and lumber.

Copper exports to China are a comparatively new feature of United States trade with that country, the amount in the ten months ending with October, 1905, having been 11,326,407 dols., against 611,677 dols. in the same months of 1904. This copper is used in manufacturing the new copper coins, of which 1,693,000,000 pieces of a nominal value of about one-half cent. each were coined in 1904.

To Japan the increase occurs in a somewhat different class of articles from those in which the gains in exports to China appear. The most important single item of increase of exports to Japan is raw cotton, of which the exports in 1905 were 138,521,618 lbs., against only 23,499,526 lbs. in the same months of 1904 and 32,951,175 lbs. in the same months of 1903. The value of the cotton exports to Japan in the ten months ending with October, 1905, is 13,784,399 dols., against 2,716,529 dols. in the same months of 1904 and 3,214,427 dols. in the same months of 1903.

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*Miscellaneous.***BRAZIL.**

The "Brazilian Review" of 12th December announces that a Budget amendment, which has just been adopted, authorises the Brazilian Government to purchase silver in bars for the purpose of minting an issue of silver money. The pieces are to be of the value of 2\$000, 1\$000 and 500 *reis* at the standard of 900 mm. The old measure was 927 mm., and all the coins in circulation will be reminted. The coins will be as follows:—

<i>Value</i>		<i>Weight.</i>		<i>Diameter.</i>
2\$000	...	20 grs.	...	22 mm.
1\$000	...	10 grs.	...	26 mm.
\$500	...	5 grs.	...	22 mm.

**JAPAN.**

A recent report by the Canadian Commercial Agent at Yokohama states that, at the conference of tea growers and merchants held in Kobe, Mr. Otani, president of the Nippon Tea Traders' Guild, in the course of his speech, remarked that the export of tea this year had been unfavourable. This was due to the excessive imports into America last year, when Americans bought very largely in anticipation of a shortage of supply because of the war; while the year before last the export was very active on account of the removal of the tea duty in America.

The cessation of exports to Russia also resulted in increased shipments to America and Canada last year. This active American demand afforded temptation to get rid of teas of inferior quality, which tended to impair the American market later on.

Owing to the discontinuance of the subsidy by the Government this year, the measures taken for the extension of the foreign market had to be abandoned.

Mr. Otani recommended the following measures for the revival of the tea market abroad:—

1. Steps should be taken to further improve the quality of tea; the tea produced in certain prefectures in the Kwansai district requiring special attention.

2. The great sympathy shown by the Americans towards Japan during the war should be availed of for the further extension of the tea market in America.

3. Provision made in Russia by the tea guilds for the introduction of Japan tea into that country should be augmented.

4. Endeavours should be made to secure a special discount in freight for block and brick teas sent to Siberia and Russia by the Chinese Eastern Railway, or by steamers to Vladivostock.

5. The provision made in America, Canada, and European Russia for the extension of the sale of tea should be continued and extended, and new fields opened in South America and Australia.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 52 Weeks ended 28th December, 1905 :—

			Week ended 28th Dec., 1905.	52 Weeks ended 28th Dec., 1905.	Week ended 28th Dec., 1905.	52 Weeks ended 28th Dec., 1905.
			IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
			No.	No.	No.	No.
American	...	...	123,318	3,595,507†	2,709	268,911†
Brazilian	...	...	12,386	147,633†	50	6,914
East Indian	...	...	1,728	79,428	—	23,326†
Egyptian	...	...	19,496	504,906†	2,592	104,919†
Miscellaneous	...	...	1,907*	104,404††	35	6,575
Total	...	...	158,835	4,431,878	5,386	410,645

\* Including 18 bales British West Indian and 66 bales British West African.

† Including corrected figures.

‡ Including 4,146 bales British West Indian and 3,874 bales British West African

### Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 30th December, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

						Average Price.					
						Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
						s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 30th December, 1905	...	...	...	...	...	28	3	24	7	18	1
Corresponding week in—											
1898	...	...	...	...	...	27	0	28	3	17	0
1899	...	...	...	...	...	25	9	25	7	16	2
1900	...	...	...	...	...	26	5	25	4	17	2
1901	...	...	...	...	...	27	7	26	7	19	10
1902	...	...	...	...	...	25	0	23	11	16	10
1903	...	...	...	...	...	26	3	22	1	15	5
1904	...	...	...	...	...	30	4	24	8	16	2

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

## Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 23rd December, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

				Week ended 23rd Dec., 1905.	Correspond- ing Week in 1904.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>					
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	...	...	Number.	11,917	1,769
Sheep and lambs	...	...	"	1,148	1,191
Swine	...	...	"	—	—
Horses	...	...	"	186	170
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>					
Beef	...	...	Cwts.	100,755	65,101
Mutton	...	...	"	75,189	41,247
Pork	...	...	"	19,029	24,597
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>					
Bacon	...	...	Cwts.	111,857	111,438
Beef	...	...	"	2,584	1,737
Hams	...	...	"	32,286	17,382
Pork	...	...	"	3,423	2,706
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh	...	...	"	18,672	9,780
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	...	...	"	17,524	15,091
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>					
Butter	...	...	Cwts.	92,843	78,433
Margarine	...	...	"	26,292	19,236
Cheese	...	...	"	37,920	19,349
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	...	...	"	4	—
" cream	...	...	"	159	153
" condensed	...	...	"	18,687	19,485
" preserved, other kinds...	...	...	"	21	1
Eggs	...	...	Grt. Hndr.	415,338	288,867
Poultry	...	...	Value £	228,489	193,929
Game	...	...	"	3,231	4,723
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	...	...	Cwts.	14,742	3,392
Lard	...	...	"	58,313	47,173
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>					
Wheat	...	...	Cwts.	1,774,700	1,282,900
Wheat meal and flour	...	...	"	419,800	183,900
Barley	...	...	"	462,100	301,200
Oats	...	...	"	355,200	204,100
Peas	...	...	"	36,250	48,410
Beans	...	...	"	27,340	22,440
Maize or Indian corn	...	...	"	946,100	718,700
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>					
Apples	...	...	Cwts.	85,250	57,971
Apricots and peaches	...	...	"	2	—
Bananas	...	...	Bunches.	112,943	69,573
Cherries	...	...	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	...	...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	...	...	"	—	—
Grapes	...	...	"	630	1,402
Lemons	...	...	"	33,904	18,219
Oranges	...	...	"	251,597	322,856
Pears	...	...	"	797	1,502
Plums	...	...	"	—	—
Strawberries	...	...	"	—	—
Unenumerated	...	...	"	2,515	826
Hay...	...	...	Tons.	1,882	1,010
Straw	...	...	"	1,884	2,246
Moss Litter. (Not shown in 1904.)	...	...	"	2,680	—
Hops	...	...	Cwts.	9,049	11,072
Locust Beans	...	...	"	29,790	57,574
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>					
Onions	...	...	Bushels.	98,226	161,794
Potatoes	...	...	Cwts.	13,831	39,549
Tomatoes	...	...	"	13,252	5,162
Unenumerated	...	...	Value £	5,526	10,426
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>					
Preserved by canning...	...	...	Cwts.	7,505	2,712
	...	...	"	10,275	1,302

**Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom—(cont.).**  
**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 30th December, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 30th Dec., 1905.	Correspond- ing week in 1904.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	7,637	10,341
Sheep and lambs	"	860	8,283
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	144	43
<b>Fresh meat :—</b>			
Beef	Cwts.	130,678	95,380
Mutton	"	50,414	70,600
Pork	"	8,211	13,923
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon	Cwts.	90,393	99,373
Beef	"	1,908	1,970
Hams	"	22,930	25,814
Pork	"	2,268	4,123
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh	"	8,443	9,253
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting...	"	22,231	16,176
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter	Cwts.	69,690	68,887
Margarine	"	12,132	20,884
Cheese	"	38,215	23,532
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	157	107
" condensed	"	13,377	15,816
" preserved, other kinds...	"	18	37
Eggs	Grt. Hndr.	267,656	276,089
Poultry	Value £	37,075	30,557
Game	"	720	7,010
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	17,065	1,495
Lard	"	41,996	51,988
<b>Corn, grain, meal and flour :—</b>			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,176,400	2,429,900
Wheat-meal and flour...	"	145,800	250,120
Barley	"	382,500	596,000
Oats...	"	138,900	199,800
Peas	"	23,860	51,402
Beans	"	6,640	5,160
Maize or Indian corn	"	524,500	843,900
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples	Cwts.	31,959	20,412
Apricots and peaches	"	6	1
Bananas	Bunches	39,900	24,409
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	204	1,681
Lemons	"	10,560	13,167
Oranges	"	165,742	282,551
Pears	"	356	256
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	1,555	3,343
Hay...	Tons	1,202	866
Straw	"	1,949	1,753
Moss Litter. (Not shown in 1904)	"	1,438	—
Hops	Cwts.	4,483	3,443
Locust beans	"	19,085	—
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions	Bushels	83,019	129,616
Potatoes...	Cwts.	5,675	20,103
Tomatoes	"	11,720	9,123
Unenumerated	Value £	3,956	7,473
Vegetables, dried...	Cwts.	1,418	695
Preserved by canning...	"	4,817	7,484

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of November, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 1d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the December issue:—State of the Labour Market in November; Relief of the Unemployed; Pauperism in the United Kingdom; Relief Works in German Towns; Recent Cases under the Conciliation Act.

### OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

*Commercial No. 4 (1905). Further Reports from H.M. Representatives on Navigable Inland Waterways in Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Germany, and the Netherlands. [Cd. 2,760.] Price 1d.*

These reports are in continuation of those furnished in 1903 [Commercial No. 7 (1903)], noted in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th August of that year, and bring the information contained therein up to date.

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## Government Publications.

## LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
<b>EUROPE—</b>					
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## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

**THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.**—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

*March, 1905.*

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*March, 1905.*

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

January 11, 1906.

[No. 476

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 95.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe-	Tientsin Shanghai	14th Dec., 1905
tition with British in ...		
Brazilian hemp ... ..	5th Oct., 1905	10
Iron ore from various places alluded to in	7th Sept., 1905	468
"Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries"		
issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 96.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The Board of Directors of the Burma Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of miscellaneous tools and stores. Specifications and forms of tender can be obtained at the Company's Offices, 199, Gresham House, E.C. For each

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

specification a fee of 20s. will be charged, which will not be returned. Tenders, enclosed in sealed envelopes, and endorsed "Tender for Miscellaneous Tools and Stores," must be delivered not later than noon on Monday, the 22nd January. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

According to "Capital" (Calcutta) of 14th December, among the railway extensions for which the Bengal Railway Material. Government are at present acquiring land are the following: In the Hooghly district on behalf of the Howrah-Amta Light Railway Company for the extension of the railway from Autpore to Campadanga, and in the Santhal Parganas and Murshidabad districts for the construction of a railway from Barbarwa to the Dhulian river-side. Both of the proposed lines will serve a large number of villages, not hitherto within easy reach of railway communication.

The "Times of India" states that the Bombay Port Trustees have resolved to use Indian, in preference to British granite, not only for parts of the docks entrances, but also for the copings of the dock walls in preference to the ordinary blue trap used in the older docks.

It is intended that some of the larger stones requiring very fine dressing to complicated patterns shall be obtained from Great Britain.

### CANADA.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—An engineering firm manufacturing steam engines, boilers, lifting machinery, motor wagons, sawing benches, pumps, &c., require the services of one or two firms in Canada with good connections, who would be prepared to take up their agency and push the sale of such goods.

A London firm of gold and silver beaters make enquiry respecting the market in Canada for gold leaf and powder, silver, platinum and bronze powder, gold size, &c.

A provision merchant at Derby has requested to be placed in communication with Canadian manufacturers of egg boxes to hold 360 and 180 each. He is also interested in importing eggs from Canada.

**Canadian Enquiry.**—A Canadian firm have asked to be placed in communication with English and Scotch houses requiring

*Openings for British Trade.***CANADA**—*continued.*

agents in the Dominion for motor cars, &c., hardware, tools, tubing, brass furnishings or other similar goods.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm manufacturing Japanese silk embroidery novelties ask to be placed in communication with Canadian manufacturers of children's millinery.

A Canadian company manufacturing spool cotton wish to purchase supplies of thread yarns, and would be pleased to hear from United Kingdom manufacturers interested.

A firm of billiard cue manufacturers wish to hear from Canadian firms who can supply cue blanks cut to dimensions in ash and maple.

A firm manufacturing a patented thimble are prepared to appoint a resident Canadian agent to sell their thimbles, on commission.

A firm of Wiltshire bacon curers are prepared to appoint a suitable Canadian agent to sell their bacons and also tinned goods.

A Dundee firm wish to do business in Canada in jute goods of all kinds, and invite correspondence from buyers.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Canadian company manufacturing turned handles as used by manufacturers of cutlery, small tools, tinware, and woodenware; also of curtain poles, broom handles and general turnery, invite correspondence from United Kingdom buyers of these goods.

A Canadian company desire the names of United Kingdom manufacturers of fancy leather as used for book covering and in the manufacture of leather boxes.

A Canadian company producing wood spirit and acetate of lime would be pleased to get into communication with reliable connections in the United Kingdom.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**TRANSVAAL.**

The Municipality of Pretoria are calling for tenders, which will be received up to 15th March, for the supply and erection of a refuse destructor capable of treating 60 tons daily. Particulars can be obtained from Messrs. Mosenthal, Sons, and Co., 72, Basinghall Street, E.C. A copy of the general conditions and specification may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### EGYPT.

An announcement appears in the Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 30th December, to the effect that tenders will be received at the Headquarters of the Coast Guard Administration, Cairo, up to noon on the 1st February, 1906, for the supply of 700 cubic feet of teak wood, size: 20 to 30 feet long by 13 ins. to 16 ins. by 13 ins. to 16 ins.

Specifications and conditions of contract can be seen at the office of the Director of Stores, Arsenal, Alexandria, from 9 a.m. to noon any day, Sundays and general holidays excepted.

Tenders must be made on stamped paper of 30 millièmes (obtainable from Lt.-Col. Western, C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.), accompanied by a deposit of 10 per cent. in cash, or by a guarantee from one of the Banks in Egypt, and must be sent in sealed envelopes addressed to the Director-General, Coast Guard Administration, Cairo, marked: "Tender for the supply of teak wood." Tenders not accompanied by the deposit will not be considered.

The Administration does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

### DENMARK.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 8th January contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply of about 2,353 tons of Z-fishplates ("Z-Lasker") for use in the construction of the Langa-Silkeborg Railway, in accordance with conditions which may be obtained on application to the State Railway Construction Office, 10, Reventlowsgade, Copenhagen. Tenders must be sent in writing to the office named before 2 p.m. on 20th January.

### NETHERLANDS.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing), that tenders will be received up to the 24th January, at the Colonial Office, The Hague, for the supply and delivery of the following:—

Contract 412. 70 traction and buffer arrangements, with appurtenances for railway carriages and waggons.

Contract Lit. E. 12.—Screw poles and screw bolts.

„ Lit. F. 12.—Reserve items for mine waggons.

„ Lit. G. 12.—Brakes with appurtenances.

„ Lit. H. 12.—50,000 soft-iron hook bolts.

„ Lit. I. 12.—51,000 tirefonds.

„ Lit. K. 12.—Galvanised plates.

Particulars are obtainable from Mr. M. Nijhoff, The Hague, at a cost of:—50 fl. (10*d.*) for Contracts No. 412, G. 12, H. 12, I. 12, and K. 12; 1 fl. (1*s.* 8*d.*) for Contracts E. 12 and F. 12.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**BELGIUM.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at **Cotton Waste.** Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet), that the Municipal Authorities of that city are calling for tenders for the supply of 7,500 kilos. of cotton waste. A deposit of 500 francs (20*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The specification ("Cahier des charges") relating to the contract may be obtained from the Hotel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the "Collège des Bourgmestre et Echevins de la ville d'Anvers," and should reach the Hotel de Ville not later than the 15th January.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Antwerp **Motor Cars and Motor Cycles.** states that the trade in motor cars and motor cycles in Belgium has developed remarkably of recent years. The organisation of periodical exhibitions of cycles and motors in Brussels and other large towns has helped considerably in this development. Several manufactories of motor cars and motor cycles have recently been established in Belgium, and most of these are doing very well. Nevertheless, a large number of motor cars are still imported, more especially from France; Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands also send a few cars. The imports of motor cycles are not very great, as these are largely manufactured in the country.

According to the "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels," the Belgian **Locomotive Turn-tables.** State Railways Administration will shortly invite tenders in five lots for the supply of 15 turntables of 18½ metres diameter for locomotives. Deposit for each lot, 122*l.*

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**SWITZERLAND.**

The British Vice-Consul at St. Gall (Mr. J. J. Nef-Kern) reports **Leather Goods, Clothing, and Sundries.** that no doubt the British wholesale warehouses, who sell even to the smallest retailer in their own country and have to give very long credits there, could do a trade at St. Gall with the retailers and probably a good trade too, if they would follow the advice repeatedly given in trade reports (*viz.*, to send competent travellers, to forward goods *freight* and *duty-free* to destination, to quote in francs, &c.) in the following articles:—Superior cut-glass ware, leather for harness and other goods, finished leather

### *Openings for British Trade.*

goods, leather gloves, leather driving bands, cutlery, plated goods, gold and silver ware, perfumed soaps, writing paper and envelopes in boxes, linen textures, woollen textures, woollen carpets, woollen clothing, porcelain and china goods, leather travelling articles, writing and drawing materials. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,520.*)

#### SPAIN.

In a recent report by the Austro-Hungarian Consul in Madrid, attention is drawn to the scarcity of goods  
**Goods Waggon.** waggon on Spanish railways, which has caused particular inconvenience in the mining district of Asturias. In order to bring to the notice of the Government the continued hindrances experienced in connection with the Northern railway, the colliery owners there have been considering the question of closing their establishments. Other mining concerns have been obliged to order a large number of waggon on their own account, including a group of Asturian firms who are buying 200 of 20 tons capacity, and, it is added, it is not improbable that other mining companies will similarly order further rolling stock on their own account.

#### OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

H.M. Consul-General at Salonica (Mr. R. W. Graves, C.M.G.), in reply to an enquiry, reports that the shovels  
**Shovels.** imported into that port come principally from Belgium and Germany, the imports from England being on a very small scale, because the English article is comparatively dear. The English shovels imported into Salonica are made of wrought iron, whereas the Belgian and German shovels are of sheet iron. The shovels are of different forms, round, pointed, and square-faced; the price varies from 20 francs to 70 francs per 100 kilos., according to quality.

The demand for the cheaper qualities is considerable.

#### CUBA.

The Cuban "Gaceta Oficial" of 30th November contains a Decree  
**Wharf Construction.** authorising the Cárdenas and Júcaro Railway Company to construct a wharf at the port of Cienfuegos.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" notifies applications by Mr.  
**Electric Tramway Plant.** G. F. Greenwood, the representative of the Cuban Electric Company, for permission to construct: (1) a tramway line in Regla; (2) two tramway lines in Guanabacoa. These lines are to be connected with the tramway between Regla and Guanabacoa.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**BRAZIL.**

According to the "Brazilian Review" of 19th December, a concession has been granted for a period of 70 years to Antonio Vieira de Almeida for the lighting and water services of Cuyabá, the capital of the State of Matto Grosso, with a yearly subsidy of 30,000 dollars.

**Lighting and  
Waterworks  
Plant.**

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**ARGENTINA.**

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 31st December states that a Bill has been laid before the Argentine Congress respecting the construction of a port at Bahia Blanca (see p. 198 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd November).

According to the terms of this Bill, tenders will be invited for the construction of a port 9·14 metres deep, fitted with the most modern appliances for the rapid loading and unloading of vessels. The contractor for the works must submit for approval particulars of the dredging plant to be used in the construction of the port. The cost of the works, including the preliminary surveys and dredging plant, must not exceed 10,000,000 gold dollars (about 2,000,000*l.*). The works may be divided into two sections, to form the object of two separate contracts, for 6,000,000 dols. and 4,000,000 dols. respectively. All materials for the works will be admitted duty free. When submitting plans and estimates for the works, the tenderer must also submit estimates for the construction and working of cranes for loading and unloading grain and coal. These will be worked by the successful tenderer for the term of twenty-five years; at the end of this period they will become the property of the State.

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**CHINA—MANCHURIA.**

The "Japan Weekly Mail" reports, with regard to the projected railways in Manchuria for the purposes of linking up the Korean and Manchurian systems, that the proposals conceived for that purpose were three. The first was a line from Wiju (New Wiju) on the Yalu to Fenghwang, thence to Lienshan and Motien, thereafter following the valley of the Taitsz to Liaoyang. The second was a coastwise line. This also was to set out from Wiju and passing through Hsuyen, was to strike the East-Chinese main line at Tashikiao. The third was to start from Antung, proceed to

**Railway  
Material.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**CHINA—MANCHURIA**—*continued.*

Fenghwang and Motien, and finally reach Mukden. These three routes may be designated respectively the median line, the coast line, and the northern line. The coast line was open to special objection, and the median line would have involved a very heavy piece of bridge-work over the Liao. In the case of the northern line, however, the great river can be spanned by a bridge 2,500 feet long. All things considered, this northern route has been preferred. The Japanese troops, under the pressure of transport necessities, built a military line from Wiju *via* Fenghwang and Motien to within 29 kilometres of Mukden. The line was not carried right through on account of deficiency of material, but the rails have now reached Hsiamatung, and the interval between that place and Mukden will be rapidly completed.

There is a railway construction bureau in Manchuria having its head office at Chemulpo, in Korea, and a branch at Hsiamatung. A military line has a gauge of only 2 feet, but its construction involves a good deal of bed-work, which is subsequently available for the permanent way. Japanese engineers are now debating whether to convert the line into 3½ ft. gauge or into a 4 ft. 8½ in. The military authorities have also constructed a line from Hsinmintun to Mukden, and operations have already been commenced for converting it into a 3½ ft. gauge.

The "Mail" thinks it is evident from this that a very extensive system of railways in Korea and Manchuria will ultimately be in Japanese hands. In Korea there will be the Seoul-Chemulpo line and the Fusan-Seoul-Wiju line, with branches to Masampo, Gensan, and other places. In Manchuria there will be the central line from Port Arthur to Changchun, the Kirin-Changchun line, the Mukden-Hsinmintun line, and the Wiju-Mukden line.

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**JAPAN.**

The French Vice-Consul at Kobe (M. Aymé Martin), has recently reported to his Government on the increasing

**Fertilisers.** demand for fertilisers in Japan, noticeable in recent years, owing to the adoption of scientific methods of agriculture. He states that in 1904, the imports of fertilisers, which had been growing steadily for some years, showed a slight diminution, owing to disorganisation caused by the war. During the first six months of 1905, however, the value of the fertilisers imported amounted to 12,976,352 yen, as compared with 5,757,075 yen in 1904. The increase was shown chiefly in oilcakes (7,265,109 yen, as compared with 2,035,279 yen); this remarkable increase was due to the

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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resumption of commercial relations with Newchwang, the chief centre for the export of oilcakes. A large increase is also shown in the imports of sulphate of ammonia (638,217 yen), phosphate of chalk (1,179,304 yen), and nitrate of soda (636,997 yen); these, with oilcakes, being the fertilisers most in demand. A very large proportion of this trade goes to Kobe, which takes six-sevenths of the oilcakes, two-thirds of the phosphate and sulphate, and one-half of the nitrates. China furnishes all the oilcakes imported: one-third of the nitrates are imported from the United States, and the remainder from Chile and various other countries: nearly the whole of the import of phosphate of chalk and sulphate of ammonia comes from the United Kingdom. There are a certain number of chemical factories at Osaka which produce fertilisers, more especially sulphate of ammonia.

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### BRITISH GOODS AND THE NEW GERMAN TARIFF.

Several enquiries having recently been addressed to the Board of Trade respecting the precise nature of the commercial relations between the United Kingdom and Germany, and the duties to be levied on British goods imported into Germany when the new German Customs Tariff comes into force on 1st March next, it is thought desirable to make the following explanation.

As announced in last week's "Board of Trade Journal" the German Bundesrath have issued a notification, in pursuance of a Law passed by the Reichstag at the end of December, continuing until further notice the accord of "most-favoured-nation" treatment to products of the British Empire (except Canada). There is no commercial treaty in force between the United Kingdom and Germany, and in the absence of such a treaty, the Law and Notification referred to (as also previous Laws and Notifications to the same effect which have now expired), were necessary in order to avoid subjecting British products to the higher rates of the German general tariff.

In this respect nothing has been changed.

The rates of the new "General" tariff have been modified in many important respects by treaties concluded by Germany with other Powers, notably Russia, Austria-Hungary, Italy, Belgium and Switzerland, and the reduced rates of duty conceded under these treaties will be extended to imports from all countries entitled to "most-favoured-nation" treatment, including the United Kingdom. Consequently, the change effected from the 1st March as regards duties on British goods will be from the

*British Goods in the New German Tariff.*

lowest rates established by the existing tariff to the lowest rates established by the new tariff.

A Return containing a translation of the new tariff and giving full details of the concessions made to other States has already been published by the Board of Trade (Reference Number, Cld. 2,414), and may be obtained at a price of 1s. 10d. from Messrs. Wyman and Sons, of Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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WEST INDIAN INTER-COLONIAL SANITARY  
CONVENTION, 1904.

Adverting to the notice published on p. 486 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th December, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Colonial Secretary of Barbados, copy of an Act to make provision for giving effect in that Island to the recommendations made by the Conference held with regard to quarantine in the West Indies.

The text of the Act, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1906, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN  
DECEMBER, AND THE YEAR 1905.\*

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for December, 1905, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1904, show increases in the value of the Imports into, and also in the value of the Exports from the United Kingdom, both of British produce and of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in December, 1905, was 53,120,486*l.*, an increase of 275,120*l.*, or 0·5 per cent., as compared with December, 1904, whilst the total Exports amounted to 35,745,303*l.*, or an increase of 1,232,893*l.* The Exports of British produce alone show an increase of 580,060*l.*, or 2·1 per cent., as compared with December, 1904, whilst there is an increase of 652,833*l.*, or 10·1 per cent., in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the Imports for December 1905, as compared with the corresponding months of 1904 and 1903, according to the different categories of merchandise :—

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\* Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905," published at pp. 444-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th March, 1905, for information as to the changes which have been made in these accounts.

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the  
year 1905.*

**Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.\***

	Month ended 31st December.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>					
A. Grain and flour ... ..	6,243,296	5,852,793	5,794,953	— 57,840	— 448,343
B. Meat, including animals for food.	4,461,588	4,092,288	4,555,294	+ 463,006	+ 93,706
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable ... ..	5,607,348	5,473,481	5,687,100	+ 213,619	+ 79,752
2. Dutiable ... ..	4,183,433	4,551,930	4,071,913	— 480,017	— 111,520
D. Tobacco ... ..	473,182	441,738	302,992	— 138,746	— 170,190
Total, Class I. ...	£ 20,968,847	20,412,230	20,412,252	+ 22	— 556,595
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	964	278	2,638	+ 2,360	+ 1,674
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	387,416	394,560	506,178	+ 111,618	+ 118,762
C. Other metallic ores ... ..	508,065	632,989	767,995	+ 135,016	+ 259,930
D. Wood and timber ... ..	1,839,928	1,275,391	1,511,536	+ 236,145	— 328,392
E. Cotton ... ..	8,412,274	9,623,000	8,069,323	— 1,553,677	— 342,951
F. Wool ... ..	1,875,184	2,436,975	2,236,994	— 199,981	+ 361,810
G. Other textile materials ... ..	1,515,288	1,764,543	1,946,850	+ 182,307	+ 431,562
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums ... ..	2,614,272	2,047,497	2,012,088	— 35,409	— 602,184
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	537,298	575,509	696,768	+ 121,259	+ 159,470
J. Materials for paper making ...	405,538	421,236	330,110	— 91,126	— 75,428
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,932,525	1,839,137	2,040,800	+ 201,663	+ 108,275
Total, Class II. ...	£ 20,628,752	21,011,115	20,121,280	— 889,835	+ 92,528
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	817,561	628,725	960,160	+ 331,435	+ 142,599
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	1,785,581	2,062,422	2,268,622	+ 206,200	+ 483,041
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	387,931	337,948	351,870	+ 13,922	— 36,061
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus ...	1,379	6,464	4,377	— 2,087	+ 2,998
E. Machinery ... ..	354,646	321,432	347,019	+ 25,587	— 7,627
F. Ships (new) ... ..	—	123	1,113	+ 990	+ 1,113
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	187,883	165,041	164,987	— 54	— 22,896
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton ... ..	457,985	490,585	678,001	+ 167,416	+ 220,016
2. Wool ... ..	793,259	881,710	913,455	+ 31,745	+ 120,196
3. Other materials ... ..	1,540,668	1,429,030	1,394,501	— 34,529	— 145,567
I. Apparel ... ..	205,016	231,373	247,329	+ 15,956	+ 42,313
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	786,082	804,977	793,527	— 11,450	+ 7,445
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves) ... ..	794,394	826,261	1,014,712	+ 188,451	+ 220,318
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	453,515	389,714	427,073	+ 37,359	— 26,442
M. Paper ... ..	454,286	418,467	434,805	+ 36,338	+ 30,519
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	2,166,708	2,230,122	2,364,657	+ 134,535	+ 197,949
Total, Class III. ...	£ 11,186,294	11,254,394	12,416,208	+ 1,161,814	+ 1,220,914
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassi- fied (including Parcel Post) £</b>	135,725	167,627	170,746	+ 3,119	+ 35,021
Total value of Imports	£ 52,319,618	52,845,366	53,120,486	+ 275,120	+ 800,868

\*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of December, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the year 1905.*

Increases.							
		£	£				
I.	A.	Wheat meal and flour ... ..	56,812	II.- cont.	D.	Wood and timber, sawn or split ...	151,232
		Barley ... ..	104,945		G.	Jute ... ..	354,756
		Maize ... ..	132,200		H.	Cotton seed... ..	70,020
		Cattle ... ..	82,240		K.	Caoutchouc... ..	170,560
	B.	Beef, fresh ...	301,233		A.	Steel ingots, blooms, billets, &c. ... ..	175,733
		Mutton, fresh ...	50,353		B.	Copper regulus and precipitate	104,457
		Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting ...	68,445		H1.	Lead ... ..	75,732
	C1.	Cheese ... ..	61,661	III.	H1.	Cotton yarns and fabrics of all kinds... ..	187,416
		Eggs ... ..	59,572		H3	Jute manufactures	50,641
		Fish, cured or salted ... ..	141,301		K.	Leather ... ..	178,169
II.	B.	Apples, raw... ..	112,479		N.	Motor cars and parts thereof ...	86,172
		Iron ore ... ..	111,370				
D.	Wood and timber, hewn ... ..	53,016					
Decreases.							
		£	£				
I.	A.	Wheat ... ..	303,489	II.	E.	Raw cotton... ..	1,555,653
		Rice ... ..	62,487		F.	Mohair... ..	164,927
	B.	Sheep and lambs... ..	58,395		G.	Hemp, dressed and undressed ...	105,680
	C1.	Hops ... ..	274,992		H.	Lac dye, seedlac, &c. ... ..	115,347
	C2.	Coffee ... ..	77,814	III.	B.	Tin ... ..	62,813
		Sugar, refined, and sugar candy ...	495,164		H3.	Silk manufactures of all sorts ...	105,436
	D.	Tobacco, unmanufactured ... ..	68,237				
		Tobacco, manufactured and snuff..	70,509				

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versa*, may be noted, viz. :—

				Increase.	Decrease.	
I.	A.	Oats	... ..	£12,845... ..	57,237 cwts.	
	B.	Bacon	... ..	£30,953... ..	15,106 "	
	C <sub>1</sub> .	Cheese	... ..	£61,661... ..	527 "	
		Eggs	... ..	£59,572... ..	36,084 gt. hundreds	
	C <sub>2</sub> .	Pears, raw	... ..	29 cwts. ...	£1,562	
		Margarine	... ..	2,385 " ...	£8,292	
		Rum (including imitation rum)		£6,457... ..	14,246 proof galls.	
		Spirits other than brandy & rum		14,341 proof galls.	£2,993	
	II.	C.	Wine	... ..	£24,668... ..	31,751 gallons.
		C.	Copper ore	... ..	£42,180... ..	6 tons
H.		Turpentine	... ..	£10,849... ..	2,852 cwts.	
I.		Sealskins, undressed	... ..	£15,681... ..	2,834 number	
III.	C.	Hardware	... ..	2,552 cwts. ...	£7,236	
		Watches	... ..	10,059 number.	£5,655	
	E.	Machinery, not steam engines or electrical	... ..	£38,964... ..	231 tons.	
		Machinery, electrical	... ..	£6,761... ..	106 "	
	J.	Cream of tartar	... ..	32 cwts. ...	£2,490	
IV.	K.	Gloves	... ..	£1,128... ..	507 doz. pairs.	
	L.	Bottles	... ..	£2,645... ..	2,471 gross.	
		Horses	... ..	92 number.	£9,979	

### III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of December, 1905, as compared with the

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the year 1905.*

corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

**Exports of British Produce.\***

	Month ended 31st December.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>					
A. Grain and flour ... ..	141,188	191,770	235,178	+	93,990
B. Meat, including animals for food	63,760	67,999	108,691	+	44,931
C. Other food and drink ... ..	1,092,618	1,126,287	1,236,177	+	143,559
D. Tobacco ... ..	60,221	75,146	83,562	+	23,341
Total, Class I. ... ..	£ 1,357,787	1,461,202	1,663,608	+	305,821
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles</b>					
<b>Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	2,207,005	2,178,950	2,193,029	+	13,976
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	29,015	47,232	46,696	—	17,681
C. Other metallic ores... ..	12,791	8,984	11,062	+	1,729
D. Wood and timber ... ..	2,495	5,335	7,410	+	4,915
E. Cotton ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool ... ..	104,059	284,484	132,888	—	28,829
G. Other textile materials ... ..	13,471	22,677	8,834	—	4,637
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums... ..	237,591	210,934	215,231	+	22,360
I. Hides and undressed skins ... ..	135,566	138,701	169,653	+	34,087
J. Materials for paper making ... ..	33,952	36,759	46,498	+	12,546
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	159,845	185,433	175,647	—	15,802
Total, Class II. ... ..	£ 2,935,790	3,119,489	3,006,948	—	71,158
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	2,294,303	2,608,459	2,673,515	+	379,212
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	581,387	589,269	793,253	+	211,866
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	396,284	433,381	443,148	+	46,864
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus... ..	43,237	73,539	29,016	—	14,221
E. Machinery ... ..	1,850,330	1,943,142	2,126,783	+	276,453
F. Ships (new) ... ..	249,217	407,173	272,105	—	22,888
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ... ..	122,364	123,721	94,552	—	27,812
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton... ..	6,501,782	8,271,544	8,351,850	+	1,850,068
2. Wool ... ..	2,277,823	2,699,719	2,619,448	—	341,625
3. Other materials ... ..	1,161,099	1,173,386	1,222,650	+	61,551
I. Apparel ... ..	532,224	468,234	481,309	+	50,915
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	1,092,011	1,148,091	1,131,926	—	39,915
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves) ... ..	401,349	453,672	508,009	+	106,660
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	261,532	259,528	265,153	+	3,621
M. Paper ... ..	147,794	156,809	148,600	—	806
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,899,577	2,225,531	2,205,748	—	306,171
Total, Class III. ... ..	£ 19,812,313	23,035,798	23,367,065	+	3,554,752
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £</b>	506,613	455,645	614,573	+	107,960
Total value of Exports of British produce ... ..	£ 24,612,503	28,072,134	28,652,194	+	4,039,661

**Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.**

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value ... ..	5,820,501	6,440,276	7,093,109	+	1,272,608

\* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the year 1905.*

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in December, 1905, with those of December, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as follow:—

**Increases.**

		£
III.	A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ...	65,056
	B. Copper, unwrought and wrought ...	155,944
	{ Steam engines ... ..	82,510
	E. { Machinery other than steam engines or	
	electrical ... ..	76,146
	H <sub>1</sub> . Cotton yarn... ..	97,092
	H <sub>3</sub> . Linen manufactures ... ..	51,652
IV.	K. Leather, and manufactures thereof ...	54,337
	Horses ... ..	54,803
	Parcel Post... ..	105,487

**Decreases.**

		£
II.	F. Wool... ..	151,596
III.	F. Ships, new ... ..	135,068
	H <sub>2</sub> Wool blankets ... ..	71,008
	N. Arms, ammunition, and military stores ...	81,708

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versa*, may be noted, viz.:—

		Increase.	Decrease.
I.	C. { Herrings ... ..	£13,635 ...	31,005 barrels
	{ Hops ... ..	40 cwts. ...	£7,477
II.	D. Tobacco and snuff... ..	£8,416 ...	120,969 lbs.
	H. Grease ... ..	£2,862 ...	4,956 cwts.
	I. Skins and furs undressed ...	£14,512 ...	68,459 No.
III.	A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ...	£65,056 ...	4,270 tons.
	{ Wool flocks and waste ... ..	£3,074 ...	12,300 lbs.
	{ Worsteds yarn ... ..	£4,406 ...	357,000 „
	H <sub>2</sub> { Woollen tissues ... ..	£40,291 ...	496,000 yards.
	{ Carpets ... ..	£1,625 ...	12,300 „
	K. Boots and shoes ... ..	£4,982 ...	822 doz. pairs.
	N. Skins and furs dressed ... ..	£2,823 ...	7,937 No.

**IV.—TRADE DURING THE YEAR 1905.**

The following table shows the value of the Imports from foreign countries and British possessions during the twelve months ended 31st December last, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years:—

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the year 1905.*

**Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.\***

	Year ended 31st December.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>					
A. Grain and flour ... ..	70,510,149	69,599,531	70,056,794	+ 457,263	— 453,355
B. Meat, including animals for food	50,397,413	48,666,315	49,411,842	+ 745,527	— 985,571
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable... ..	63,695,665	63,387,599	63,072,019	— 315,580	— 623,646
2. Dutiable ... ..	43,491,066	45,236,365	46,101,099	+ 864,734	+ 2,610,035
D. Tobacco ... ..	4,190,833	4,512,378	3,731,969	— 780,409	— 458,884
Total, Class I. ... ..	£ 232,285,146	£ 231,402,188	£ 232,373,723	+ 971,535	+ 88,577
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	3,987	2,689	42,582	+ 39,893	+ 38,595
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	4,887,793	4,599,200	5,530,784	+ 931,584	+ 642,991
C. Other metallic ores... ..	5,915,491	6,597,702	7,611,185	+ 1,013,483	+ 1,695,694
D. Wood and timber ... ..	27,122,956	23,637,985	23,276,358	— 361,627	— 3,846,598
E. Cotton ... ..	45,026,578	55,024,825	52,370,878	— 2,653,947	+ 7,344,300
F. Wool ... ..	23,608,809	23,316,455	26,648,261	+ 3,331,806	+ 3,039,452
G. Other textile materials ... ..	11,829,806	13,030,669	14,517,288	+ 1,486,619	+ 2,687,482
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums ... ..	24,461,171	25,290,505	23,594,010	— 1,696,495	— 867,161
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	7,381,872	6,576,310	8,084,824	+ 1,508,514	+ 702,952
J. Materials for paper making ...	3,431,467	3,554,133	3,804,692	+ 250,559	+ 373,225
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	19,840,107	20,582,340	22,590,695	+ 2,008,355	+ 2,750,588
Total Class II. ... ..	£ 173,510,037	£ 182,212,813	£ 188,071,557	+ 5,858,744	+ 14,561,520
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	8,662,481	8,216,772	8,583,571	+ 371,799	— 73,910
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	18,511,270	20,953,877	21,840,599	+ 886,722	+ 3,329,329
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	4,236,641	3,814,587	3,613,062	— 201,525	— 623,579
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus... ..	57,360	55,074	53,532	— 1,542	— 3,828
E. Machinery ... ..	4,450,370	4,312,440	4,539,689	+ 227,249	+ 89,319
F. Ships (new) ... ..	57,985	26,196	32,623	+ 6,427	— 25,362
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ... ..	2,345,262	2,083,306	1,968,196	— 115,110	— 377,066
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton... ..	7,377,581	6,648,062	7,920,389	+ 1,272,327	+ 542,808
2. Wool ... ..	11,268,188	11,428,539	12,523,997	+ 1,095,458	+ 1,255,809
3. Other materials ... ..	19,505,920	19,385,895	19,244,329	— 141,566	— 261,591
I. Apparel ... ..	3,476,342	3,512,904	3,952,699	+ 439,795	+ 476,357
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	8,848,292	9,211,770	9,624,607	+ 412,837	+ 776,315
K. Leather and manufactures thereof including boots and shoes, and gloves) ... ..	11,313,951	10,893,182	11,037,762	+ 144,580	— 276,189
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	4,780,739	4,337,273	4,310,916	— 26,357	— 469,823
M. Paper ... ..	4,850,183	4,940,619	5,256,145	+ 315,526	+ 405,962
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	24,821,786	25,347,830	29,070,549	+ 2,722,719	+ 3,248,763
Total, Class III. ... ..	£ 134,564,351	£ 135,168,326	£ 142,577,665	+ 7,409,339	+ 8,013,311
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)...</b>					
Total ... ..	£ 2,240,755	£ 2,255,301	£ 2,256,457	+ 1,156	+ 15,702
Total ... ..	£ 542,600,289	£ 551,038,628	£ 565,279,402	+ 14,240,774	+ 22,679,113

\* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

The value of the Exports of home produce, also of foreign and colonial produce, during the twelve months of 1905, as compared with 1904 and 1903, is as shown in the following table:—

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the  
year 1905.*

**Exports of British Produce.\***

	Year ended 31st December.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>					
A. Grain and flour ... ..	1,684,029	1,866,638	2,836,843	+ 970,205	+ 1,152,814
B. Meat, including animals for food.	668,227	745,197	924,489	+ 179,292	+ 256,262
C. Other food and drink ... ..	13,371,343	13,538,705	14,729,742	+ 1,191,037	+ 1,358,399
D. Tobacco ... ..	653,605	776,045	981,878	+ 205,833	+ 328,273
Total, Class I. ... ..	£ 16,377,204	16,926,585	19,472,952	+ 2,546,367	+ 3,095,748
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	27,262,786	26,862,386	26,061,117	— 801,269	— 1,201,669
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	453,946	500,621	474,866	— 25,755	+ 20,920
C. Other metallic ores... ..	134,843	130,630	116,011	— 14,619	— 18,832
D. Wood and timber ... ..	51,164	67,593	79,046	+ 11,453	+ 27,882
E. Cotton ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool ... ..	1,092,997	1,613,737	1,744,772	+ 131,035	+ 651,775
G. Other textile materials ... ..	128,385	179,672	155,578	— 24,094	+ 27,193
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums... ..	2,976,551	2,759,019	2,597,319	— 161,700	— 379,232
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	1,276,836	1,428,041	1,854,526	+ 426,485	+ 577,690
J. Materials for paper making ...	409,624	428,481	538,623	+ 110,142	+ 128,999
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,591,697	1,709,446	1,936,971	+ 227,525	+ 345,274
Total, Class II. ... ..	£ 35,378,829	35,679,626	35,558,829	— 120,797	+ 180,000
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	30,399,261	28,066,671	31,827,142	+ 3,760,471	+ 1,427,881
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	6,958,305	6,991,421	8,934,590	+ 1,943,169	+ 1,976,285
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	4,638,211	4,891,191	5,113,386	+ 222,195	+ 475,175
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	1,808,465	866,137	1,551,767	+ 685,630	— 256,698
E. Machinery ... ..	20,058,206	21,065,191	23,267,621	+ 2,202,430	+ 3,209,415
F. Ships (new) ... ..	4,283,829	4,455,151	5,429,292	+ 974,141	+ 1,145,463
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	1,509,788	1,281,678	1,213,468	— 68,210	— 296,320
H. Yarns and textile fabrics— 1. Cotton ... ..	73,611,731	83,873,746	91,987,493	+ 8,113,747	+ 18,375,762
2. Wool ... ..	25,385,941	27,474,649	29,938,260	+ 2,463,611	+ 4,552,319
3. Other materials ... ..	12,637,730	12,414,591	13,204,031	+ 789,440	+ 566,301
I. Apparel ... ..	7,555,111	5,745,368	6,021,217	+ 275,849	— 1,533,894
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	13,544,552	13,647,449	14,535,195	+ 887,746	+ 990,643
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves) ... ..	4,946,609	4,758,999	5,658,574	+ 899,575	+ 711,965
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	3,278,482	3,116,223	3,209,281	+ 93,058	— 69,201
M. Paper... ..	1,795,850	1,876,797	1,938,379	+ 61,582	+ 142,529
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	22,375,788	23,300,632	26,130,961	+ 2,829,429	+ 3,754,273
Total, Class III. ... ..	£ 234,787,859	243,825,894	269,959,757	+ 26,133,863	+ 35,171,898
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclasi- fied (including Parcel Post) £</b>	4,256,216	4,278,935	5,031,929	+ 752,994	+ 775,713
Total value ... ..	£ 290,800,108	300,711,040	330,023,467	+ 29,312,427	+ 39,223,359

**Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.**

Total value ... ..	£ 69,573,564	£ 70,304,281	£ 77,798,521	£ 7,494,240	£ 8,224,957
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\* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship and are known as the "free on board" values.

## Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in December, and the year 1905.

### V.—SHIPPING IN DECEMBER, 1905.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended 31st December, 1905, amounted to 3,204,645 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,093,877 tons, as against 3,218,638 tons entered and 3,973,710 tons cleared in the month of December, 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during December 1905, amounted to 2,647,569 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,595,462 tons, as against 2,587,334 tons entered, and 2,536,380 tons cleared in December, 1904.

### VI.—TWELVE MONTHS' SHIPPING (JANUARY-DECEMBER).

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1905, amounted to 39,995,929 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 49,624,915 tons, as against 39,941,897 tons entered and 48,466,364 tons cleared during 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1905, amounted to 32,702,249 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 32,180,951 tons, as against 32,204,891 tons entered and 31,684,895 tons cleared during 1904.

## TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to October, 1905, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the ten months ended October. The corresponding figures for 1904 and 1903 are added for comparison :—

	Imports ( <i>see NOTE</i> that follows tables). Ten Months ended October.			Exports (Domestic) ( <i>see NOTE</i> that follows tables). Ten Months ended October.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium* ... ..	83,892,000	88,637,000	94,768,000	64,637,000	67,404,000	70,001,000
France... ..	155,434,000	144,521,000	150,904,000	138,379,000	142,468,000	154,216,000
Spain*... ..	27,550,000	26,765,000	32,883,000	27,111,000	27,606,000	27,920,000
Italy ... ..	61,107,000	61,578,000	67,218,000	49,520,000	51,069,000	54,239,000
Austria-Hungary ...	63,676,000	68,390,000	73,334,000	72,875,000	72,326,000	73,121,000
Egypt ... ..	13,729,000	16,102,000	17,669,000	13,846,000	15,939,000	15,202,000
United States... ..	175,150,000	175,869,000	204,172,000	234,616,000	234,561,000	257,007,000
Japan ... ..	27,086,000	30,286,000	42,757,000	23,858,000	25,624,000	25,469,000
British India ... ..	44,944,000	51,671,000	54,085,000	79,791,000	86,135,000	85,278,000
Canada ... ..	43,179,000	42,749,000	45,119,000	35,913,000	31,480,000	33,405,000
United Kingdom ...	382,973,000	389,707,000	395,051,000	243,240,000	246,632,000	271,763,000

\* Value of *principal* articles only.

*Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

A comparison of the total figures for the eleven months ended 30th November is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

	Imports ( <i>see Note</i> ). Eleven Months ended November.			Exports (Domestic) ( <i>see Note</i> ). Eleven Months ended November.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium* ... ..	92,100,000	97,295,000	104,098,000	71,215,000	74,133,000	77,824,000
France... ..	172,054,000	161,282,000	167,890,000	153,103,000	158,931,000	171,732,000
United States ... ..	191,193,000	195,696,000	224,683,000	267,616,000	267,139,000	292,082,000
United Kingdom ... ..	426,867,000	434,642,000	441,468,000	266,278,000	272,746,000	301,371,000

\* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Belgium, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, and *United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of “nationalised” goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (9 months)...	46,313,000	46,220,000	44,173,000	73,919,000	69,217,000	81,845,000
Germany (9 months)...	220,378,000	230,590,000	243,579,000	184,161,000	189,161,000	201,297,000
Switzerland (9 months)...	33,428,000	34,499,000	35,609,000	25,779,000	25,495,000	27,635,000
Portugal (7 months)...	7,999,000	8,378,000	8,133,000	3,836,000	4,068,000	3,662,000
Mexico† (8 months)...	10,219,000	10,714,000	11,229,000	11,115,000	12,324,000	14,940,000

\* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of both imports and exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June, 1903, 1904, and 1905, at 1s. 8d., 1s. 10d. and 2s. 1d. respectively; 2s. 1d. has been taken for the two first months (July and August) of the year 1905-6. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the “Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions, including figures received up to 31st December,” to be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

### NORWAY.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that certain proposed alterations in the Norwegian Customs Tariff have been submitted by the Norwegian Government to the Storthing. The proposed modifications, which, if approved by the Storthing, are to come into force on the 1st April next, are as follows:—

(Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs. avoirdupois ; Krone = 100 öre = 1s. 1½d.)

Tariff No.	Articles.	Present "Minimum" Rate of Duty.	Proposed New Rate.
		Kron. öre.	Kron. öre.
<i>Ex</i> 259	Water, heating and sewer pipes, of earth or clay ... ..	Free	<i>Per</i> 100 kilogs. 0 50
		<i>Per kilog.</i>	<i>Per kilog.</i>
<i>Ex</i> 276	Porcelain stoppers ... ..	0 55	0 15
<i>Ex</i> 435	Pipe fittings of forged or malleable iron...	Free	0 01
—	Iron hydrants ... ..	Free	0 05
—	Wooden doors, windows and stairs ...	0 20	0 07
<i>Ex</i> 531	Bobbin cases ... ..	Free	0 10
644	Sponges—		
	In the rough or merely beaten ...	3 00	1 50
	Other ... ..		5 00
—	Mops ... ..	Not separately mentioned	0 60

### SPAIN.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Bill which has been laid before the Cortes, authorising the Spanish Government to revise the existing Customs Tariff; and establishing the bases on which such revision is to be effected. The Bill fixes the *ad valorem* limits within which the specific duties on the various groups of merchandise (as raw materials, foodstuffs, industrial products, &c.) are to be assessed. the limits varying according as the particular descriptions of merchandise are, or are not, produced in Spain.

The translation of the Bill may be seen by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" for the 16th December contains the text of a Bill proposing to exempt from the payment of the Internal Tax fixed by the Law of 1899\* molasses containing less than 50 per cent. of crystallisable sugar, produced in national manufacturing and destined for use in the manufacture of cattle food or manure.

\* See "Board of Trade Journal" for 4th January, 1900, p. 15.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The Commissioners of Customs have issued a General Order (No. 1 of 1906), directing that entries in which wine from countries other than Portugal is described as Port, unaccompanied by satisfactory evidence that the wine is the produce of that country, should not be accepted unless the word Port is qualified by an unmistakable indication of the country in which the wine was produced, such as Spanish Port, French Port, or German Port. Such descriptions as Tarragona Port, Catalonia Port, Roussillon Port, or Hamburg Port, must be accompanied by the words "Produce of Spain," "Produce of France," or "Produce of Germany," as the case may be. Wines described as Sherry imported from countries other than Spain should be similarly qualified.

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### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

A copy of the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" for 24th November, 1905, has been received containing a Proclamation (No. 405 of 1905), dated 13th November, 1905, extending the provisions of Proclamation No. 147 of 1903, respecting the prohibition of the introduction of "dogs and other carnivora and monkeys" into the Colony from any port on the East African Coast, north of Durban, Natal, whereby the importation, oversea, of *all* live-stock is prohibited, unless accompanied by a certificate, signed by the master of the vessel in which the animals are brought, to the effect that such live-stock have not been shipped, landed, or transhipped at any port on the East African Coast, north of Durban in Natal.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains a Proclamation (No. 406 of 1905), dated 13th November last, notifying that the importation of wool and mohair from the Transvaal shall no longer be restricted, as laid down in Proclamation 300 of 1905, to certain "Ports of Entry" in the Colony.

**Removal of Restrictions upon Imported Wool and Mohair from the Transvaal.**  
The importation of hides, skins and horns from the Transvaal is still restricted, under that Proclamation, to the "Ports of Entry" established at Malmani Road, Myssymiyani and Fourteen Streams.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***EGYPT.**

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 11th December contains a revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duty on certain yarns and tissues. The new Tariff, which came into force on the 12th December, 1905, and is to remain in force until 11th December, 1906, or until denunciation, is as follows:—

Articles.	Valuation per kilog.*	
	Former.	New.
	Millièmes.†	Millièmes.†
White longcloths, soft or hard finish ... ..	79	83
Victoria lawns, common qualities ... ..		
Doriahs, hard finish ... ..	68	73
Grey T and longcloths ... ..		
Grey shirtings, domestic; grey tanjibs, twills, cambrics	93	100
Arabian stripes and cotton serims ... ..	68	71
Tow, hemp and linen yarns, grey or bleached... ..	70	73
Cotton single yarns, grey and bleached, and knittings,		
from India ... ..	58	62
Ditto, ditto, from other countries ... ..	66	71
Cotton sewings and doubled yarns from India ... ..	70	75
Ditto, ditto, from other countries ... ..	78	84
Linen or cotton yarns, grey, bleached, or dyed, fine		
qualities ... ..	231	242
Fine Victoria lawns ... ..	200	210
Fine mulls ... ..	290	304
White tanjibs (soft finish); grey mulls and grey		
lenos; white mulls; grey doriahs; white doriahs		
(soft finish); white cambrics (soft finish) ... ..	134	140
Crapes, dice checks, herring-bones, sateen stripes,		
bleached or grey, all common qualities ... ..	125	131
White shirtings, white croydons, white twills (fine		
light shirtings, batiste, are excluded, not falling		
under the specific Tariff, if price exceeds 5 <i>d.</i> per yd.)	103	107
Prints for dressing, prints for furniture, and cretonne		
prints ... ..	150	157
Linen serims ... ..	135	141
Union serims ... ..	70	73
Tanjibs, hard finish ... ..	52	54
Fancy cloth, red, coloured, or sateen stripes (Bazin)... ..	148	155
Sheetings ... ..	143	150
Grey dhooties ... ..	113	118
White dhooties ... ..	142	149
Cambrics y. 12 and y. 24... ..	<i>ad valorem</i>	<i>ad valorem</i>
Plain dyed cloths, sateens, black drills, and Turkey		
red common brocades (excluding printed sateens,		
mercerised sateens, jaconets and linings and fine		
brocades)... ..	125	131

\* Duty is levied on these Valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.

† 1,000 millièmes = £1 = £1 *Os.* 6*d.*

NOTE.—The tare allowance for bales remains fixed at 3 per cent.

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### EGYPT—continued.

Articles.	Valuation per kilog.*	
	Former.	New.
	Millièmes.†	Millièmes.†
Coloured cotton yarns, single and double, from India .	81	87
Ditto, ditto, other countries ... ..	89	96
Gassed or mercerised or prepared yarns, grey, bleached, or dyed, from India ... ..	109	117
Ditto, ditto, from other countries ... ..	117	126
Zephyrs ... ..	250	<i>ad valorem</i>
Striped jute or linen or cotton cloths for mattresses...	125	131
Bed-tick checks ... ..	89	93
Prints "satiné" for furniture ... ..	176	184
Cambrics, hard finish ... ..	79	83
Jaconets, crimps, crepons, heavy lappets, heavy lenos, common punjees and light prints, plain, coloured or printed ... ..	<i>ad valorem</i>	<i>ad valorem</i>
Swiss checks, bleached or grey ... ..	125	131
Drills, grand drills and cetaries ... ..	90	94
Cotton flannelettes and prints flannelettes ... ..	131	131
Oxfords, common qualities ... ..	120	120
Fine brocades, plain, figured, or printed ... ..	<i>ad valorem</i>	<i>ad valorem</i>
Plain cotton crepon, white, black, or coloured ... ..	245	257
Nainsook and similar cloths, white, black, or coloured		

\* † See notes on previous page.

### EGYPT—SUDAN.

The "Sudan Gazette" for the 1st December, 1905, contains an Ordinance of the Governor-General reducing the import duty on the following articles from eight to four per cent. *ad valorem* :—

- (a) Coal, "mazut," charcoal and firewood;  
(b) Timber; (c) Petroleum; (d) Oxen, cows, sheep, and goats, and the meat of those animals.

The Ordinance introducing these alterations was to come into force at once.

### NORWAY.

The following statement shows the "minimum" import duties which, in accordance with a Resolution of the Norwegian Storthing of the 27th September last, will be applied to various articles the rates on which are at present fixed by treaties between Norway and other countries, as those treaties go out of operation :—

**New Duties to be applied to certain Articles on Expiration of Commercial Treaties.**

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***NORWAY**—*continued.*

[Kilog. = 2.2046 lbs. avoirdupois; Krone = 100 öre = 1s. 1½d.]

Tariff No.	Articles.	Minimum Rates of Duty.	
		Leviable under Treaties now in force.	Leviable as the Treaties expire.
		Kron. öre. Per kilog.	Kron. öre. Per kilog.
	Cotton and cotton manufactures—		
57	Blonds, lace [ <i>embroidered lengths, insertions and the like</i> ]* ... ..	[Duty not altered.]	
59	Bobbinet and tulle, as well as other transparent or open-work tissues, either embroidered or woven in patterns, figures, stripes, or checks (not including embroidery on canvas) ... ..		
	NOTE.— <i>Curtain nets will pay under the foregoing number.</i> †		
77	Infants' food... ..	Free (a)	0.40
	Fruits and berries—		
	(i.) Fresh—		
155	Oranges of all kinds (including bitter oranges), citrons and lemons ... ..	0.02 (b)	0.10
156	Grapes ... ..	0.02 (b)	0.25
	(ii.) Dried—		
163	Figs and fig cake ... ..	0.05 (b)	0.20
164	Raisins ... ..	0.08 (b)	0.15
167	Almonds ... ..	0.05 (b)	0.50
	Greengrocery—		
	(i.) Fresh—		
205	Melons ... ..	0.02 (b)	0.40
	(iii.) Other ( <i>i.e.</i> , other than fresh and those put up in hermetically closed receptacles)—		
211	Dried ... ..	0.05 (b)	0.25
305	Cork, other manufactures of ( <i>i.e.</i> other than those separately mentioned in the Tariff) ...	0.13 (c)	0.18
	Nuts—		
495	Hazel nuts ... ..	0.05 (b)	0.40
	Wine, medicated or not with quinine or other drugs—		
	(i.) In bottles—	<i>Per litre.</i>	<i>Per litre.</i>
726	Other than sparkling ... ..	0.70 (b)	0.90
	(ii.) In casks or jars—		
727	Of an alcoholic strength not exceeding 21 per cent. ... ..	0.40 (b)	<i>Per kilog.</i> 0.60
	Note 1 to Nos. 725-7 (†) will be suppressed when the Commercial Treaty with Portugal expires.		

\* The words in square brackets will be added to No. 57.

† "Curtain nets" pay at present 2 kron. per kilog. under No. 58.

(a) Fixed by Treaty with Switzerland.

(b) " " Spain.

(c) " " Portugal.

† See the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 14th December, p. 503.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### **NORWAY**—*continued.*

In connection with the above, it is to be noted that the Commercial Treaty of 1894 between Norway and Switzerland has been denounced, and will expire on the 27th May next. So far as the Board of Trade are aware, neither the Treaty with Spain nor that with Portugal has as yet been denounced.

**Denunciation of  
Commercial  
Treaty between  
Switzerland and  
Norway.**

### **FRANCE—ALGERIA.**

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 30th December contains the text of a Presidential Decree authorising the levying of Municipal Octroi de Mer duties in Algeria during the year 1906 in accordance with a Tariff annexed to the Decree. This Tariff is the same as that in force for last year (*see* the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 12th January, 1905, p. 75) except that an addition is made in respect of imitations of pepper (*poivreux, grabeaux gris, &c.*), whether containing pepper or not, which are to pay the same rate of duty as pepper (35 francs per 100 kilogrammes).

**"Octroi de Mer"  
Duties.**

### **FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.**

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 30th December, contains a Presidential Decree prolonging the prohibition against the exportation of cows and heifers from Madagascar and its Dependencies until the 31st December next, with the following exception:—

**Exportation of  
Cows and  
Heifers.**

Persons exporting oxen may export at the same time a number of cows or heifers equal to a tenth of the number of oxen exported; but this privilege may not be carried over from one exportation to another.

Until the 31st December, 1906, an export duty at the rate of 2 francs 50 centimes per head will be levied on cattle exported.

### **FRANCE—SWITZERLAND.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Berne, reporting that the Swiss Federal Council have applied to the Legislature for authority to apply the new Swiss Conventional Tariff to French products during the period from 1st January to 1st April, 1906, by which date it is hoped that a Commercial Treaty between the two countries will be concluded.

**Commercial  
Relations  
between France  
and Switzerland.  
Modifications  
of the  
French Tariff.**

On the side of France, the reduced duties conceded by the Franco-Swiss Convention of 1895 have been, for the most part, suspended\*

\* See the preliminary notice on p. 27 of last week's "Board of Trade Journal."

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***FRANCE—SWITZERLAND—continued.**

during the same period, and the "minimum" rates fixed by the Tariff of 1892, re-established, as shown in the following statement:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Duties under the Franco-Swiss Convention of 1895.	"Minimum" Rates applicable from 1st Jan.—1st April, 1906.
		Frs. Cts. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>	Frs. Cts. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>
35 <i>ter</i>	Milk, condensed, with an addition of sugar in a proportion less than 40 per cent. ... ..	40 % of the duty on refined sugar, plus 6 frs. per 100 kilogs.	Half of the duty on refined sugar, plus 6 frs. per 100 kilogs.
36	Hard cheeses known as Gruyère or Emmenthal; including bernésines, gruyères, "Saanen," "sbrinz," and other "spalen" ... ..	12 00*	15 00
	Other hard cheeses ... ..	15 00†	12 00
380	Silk thread for sewing, embroidering, trimming, for mercery, &c., dyed ...	300 00	400 00
459	Tissues, foulards, crêpes, tulle, and trimmings of pure silk, the produce of countries in the Far East ... ..	900 00	900 00
	Of any other origin { Tissues and foulards of pure silk ...	{ 400 00† 240 00\$ 200 00	{ 400 00
	Of any other origin { Crapes, tulle, and trimmings of pure silk ... ..	{ 400 00	{ 400 00
	Hosiery of silk—		
	All other articles of every kind ( <i>i.e.</i> , other than those separately mentioned in the Tariff) including clothing and parts of clothing, made up or not ... ..	400 00	500 00
459 <i>bis</i>	Embroideries of all kinds ... ..	¶	{ Duty on the tissue, plus 8 frs. per kilog. on the total net weight.

\* Gruyère. † Other cheese. ‡ Unbleached. § Coloured, other than black.  
|| Black.

¶ Under the Franco-Swiss Convention of 1895, machine-made embroideries in cotton thread on plain cotton tissues, in bands or stripes presenting regular alternations of embroidered and unembroidered tissue of approximately equal width, and also cotton embroideries called *volants* in which the unembroidered part of the tissue is distinctly wider than the embroidered part, paid duty as follows:—

(1) The duty on the foundation tissue according to kind, *i.e.*, on the total weight decreased by 30 per cent. (representing the assumed weight of the embroidery thread); and

(2) The surtax for embroidery at the rate of 800 francs per 100 kilogs. on the total weight after deducting 30 per cent. for the weight of the unembroidered tissue.

All other embroideries paid the duty on the foundation tissue according to kind, with an addition of 800 francs per 100 kilogs. on the total net weight.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***FRANCE—SWITZERLAND—continued.**

Tariff No.	Articles.	Duties under the Franco-Swiss Convention of 1895.	"Minimum" Rates applicable from 1st Jan.—1st April, 1906.
		Frs. Cts.	Frs. Cts.
497	Watch movements without cases :—	Dozen.	Dozen.
	Movements and escapement bearers, rough or finished, without any trace of the escapement being fitted ...	0 75	1 00
498	Watch movements and escapement bearers with escapements fitted, or only presenting traces of the escapements having been fitted, but not gilt, silvered or nickelled :—		
	Cylinder escapements ...	3 50	5 00
	Lever or other escapements ...	6 00	8 00
499	Movements entirely finished, gilt, silvered or nickelled :—		
	Escapements other than cylinder	33 00	36 00
500	Watches finished, with simple movements :—	Each.	Each.
	With gold cases, and with escapements other than cylinder ...	4 00	4 25
500 bis	With silver cases :—		
	Cylinder escapement ...	1 00	1 25
	Lever or other escapement ...	1 25	1 75
500 ter	With cases of all other non-precious materials :—		
	Cylinder escapement ...	0 50	0 75
	Lever or other escapement ...	0 75	1 25
	Watches, complicated (repcaters) with independent seconds, whatever be the form of escapement ; pocket chronometers—		
501	Watches with gold cases ...	10 00	15 00
501 bis	" " silver " ...	4 00	8 00
501 ter	" " cases of non-precious materials* ...	2 50	5 00
501 quater	Chronographs (whatever be the kind of escapement)—		
	With gold cases ...	5 00	15 00
	" silver " ...	2 00	8 00
	" cases of non-precious materials* ...	1 25	5 00
503	Watch cases, finished ...	(No change.)	
503 bis	Watch cases, rough—	Per 100 kilogs.	Per 100 kilogs.
	Of precious metal ...		500 00
	Of nickel, German silver, or nickelled metal ...	16 00	100 00
	Of all other common metals ...		50 00
507	Chimes, musical boxes, 20 cms. or more in length ...		60 00
508	Small musical boxes measuring less than 20 cms. in length ...	50 00	90 00
512 bis	Hydraulic machinery, wheel and piston, turbines, pumps, fans, weighing—		
	250 kilogs. and more ...	8 00†	10 00
	Less than 250 kilogs. ...	10 00†	15 00
		15 00	

\* Those cases of common materials of which the adjuncts are of gold or silver or gilt or silvered, will pay duty as cases of gold or silver.

† More than 3,000 kilogs, containing at least 50 % of cast iron. ‡ Other.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***FRANCE—SWITZERLAND—continued.**

Tariff No.	Articles.	Duties under the Franco-Swiss Convention of 1895.	"Minimum" Rates applicable from 1st Jan.—1st April, 1906.
		Frs. Cts. Per 100 kilograms.	Frs. Cts. Per 100 kilograms.
524	Dynamo-electric machines, weighing—		
	1,000 kilogs. and more ... ..	12 00*	20 00
		20 00†	
		18 00‡	
	From 50 to 1,000 kilogs. ... ..	30 00	30 00
	" 10 to 50 kilogs. ... ..	80 00	80 00
527 bis	Refrigerating apparatus, weighing—		
	250 kilogs. and more ... ..	14 00	15 00
	Less than 250 kilogs. ... ..	25 00	25 00
536	Dynamo-conductors and detached parts, such as induction coils, solid or hollow, of metal surrounded by insulated copper; worked parts of copper weighing less than 1 kilog., numbered and marked, fitted together or not, for electric machines, weighing—		
	More than 2,000 kilogs.... ..	35 00	
	From 1,000 to 2,000 kilogs. ... ..	40 00	
	" 200 to 1,000 kilogs. ... ..	45 00	75 00
	" 1 to 200 kilogs. ... ..	60 00	
	Less than 1 kilog. ... ..	75 00	
536 bis	Arc lamps known as regulators ... ..	60 00	75 00

\* 5,000 kilogs. and more, containing at least 50 per cent. of cast iron.

† Weighing 2,000 kilogs. or more, containing less than 50 per cent. of cast iron; also weighing from 1,000 to 2,000 kilogs.

‡ From 2,000 to 5,000 kilogs., containing at least 50 per cent. of cast iron.

### SWITZERLAND—**PORTUGAL.** **SPAIN.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Berne, reporting that a Commercial Convention between Switzerland and Portugal was signed on the 20th December last, by which the two countries accord to each other reciprocal most-favoured-nation treatment. The Convention is to remain in force for five years.

H.M. Minister also reports that, in view of the impossibility of concluding a new Treaty of Commerce with Spain by the 1st March next, the Swiss Federal Council have applied to the Chamber for authority to prolong the existing *modus vivendi*\* beyond that date.

\* See the "Board of Trade Journal" for 14th September, 1905, p. 500.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### SWITZERLAND—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of Notes which have been exchanged between the Austro-Hungarian and Swiss Governments regulating provisionally the commercial relations between the two countries.

The two governments agree to prolong the Commercial Treaty of 1891 until the 28th February next, except as regards the schedule of Customs duties to be leviable by Switzerland on Austro-Hungarian products. In place of these duties the new Swiss "conventional" tariff, which came into force on the 1st January, 1906, is to be applied to imports from Austria-Hungary, with the following modifications, which will be equally applicable to imports from the United Kingdom, in accordance with the most-favoured-nation clause of the Anglo-Swiss Treaty:—

#### *Provisional Modification of the Swiss Conventional Tariff of 1st January, 1906.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under the New Conventional Tariff.	Modified Duty applicable from the 1st. Jan. to 28th Feb., 1906.
		Frs. Cts. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>	Frs. Cts. <i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>
15	Malt ... ..	1 50	1 00
25	Fruits dried or drained, with the stones...	3 50	3 00
		<i>Each</i>	
147	Bee-hives, with living bees ... ..	2 00	0 40
<i>Ad 184</i>	<i>Note.</i> —Pigskin is dutiable under this number.		
<i>Ad 188</i>	<i>Note.</i> —Finished leather manufactures with ornaments of all kinds are dutiable under this number, provided that leather is the predominating material.		
	Wood for building and cabinet-makers' wood sawn lengthwise or split, even if completely squared—		
	Sleepers—	<i>Per 100 kilogs.</i>	
233	Of oak... ..	0 60	0 45
234	Other ... ..	1 00	0 80
	Other, of all kinds—		
235	Of oak... ..	0 60	0 50
236	Of other non-resinous woods ...	1 00	0 85
237	Of resinous wood ... ..	1 50	0 85
	Wood for building and cabinet-makers' wood—		
240	Fitted ... ..	2 50	1 40
	Pieces for parquetry of all kinds, finished—		
242	Not glued ... ..	8 00	5 00
243	Glued ... ..	14 00	8 00

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SWITZERLAND—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under the New Conventional Tariff.	Modified Duty applicable from the 1st Jan. to 28th Feb., 1906.
		Frs. Cts. Per 100 kilogs.	Frs. Cts. Per 100 kilogs.
<i>Ex</i> 259	Chairs of bent beech wood—	15 00*	
<i>Ex</i> 261	{ Rough ... ..	{ 20 00†	{ 15 00
<i>Ex</i> 263		{ 40 00†	
<i>Ex</i> 260		{ 20 00*	
<i>Ex</i> 262	{ Other ... ..	{ 25 00†	{ 20 00
<i>Ex</i> 264		{ 50 00†	
292	Grey pasteboard; straw and wood pasteboard; leather-board ... ..	7 00	4 50
	Manufactures of felt, without needle-work—		
490	Hat shapes of hair-felt ... ..	65 00	55 00
491	Hat shapes of woollen felt ... ..	40 00	30 00
<i>Ex</i>	Plaits of dyed wood chips, even mixed, conforming to samples deposited ...	2 00	Free
508 <i>b</i>	Glass and hollow-ware of all kinds, polished, engraved, coloured (of coloured glass), gilt, &c., even combined with other materials, except precious metals—		
694 <i>b</i>	Watch glasses ... ..		18 00
694 <i>c</i>	Other ( <i>i.e.</i> , other than photographic dry-plates and watch glasses) ...	20 00	18 00
	<i>Note to No. 694c.</i> —Glass-ware with some few parts of non-precious metals, even gilt or silvered (such as fittings, frames, pedestals, &c.) are dutiable under this number.		
	Wares of tin or tin alloys (wares of Britannia metal)—		
857	Rough ... ..	[Duty not altered]	
<i>Ad</i> 857	<i>Note.</i> —Lead capsules for bottles, rough, plated with tin, or of lead and tin alloy, even with impressed marks of commercial firms, &c., are dutiable under this number.		
	Polished, painted, varnished, nickelled, enamelled, &c.—		
858 <i>b</i>	Capsules of lead for bottles, plated with tin, or of lead and tin alloy, even with impressed marks of commercial firms, &c.	45 00	40 00
909	Sledges, other than those for rural use and for transport ... ..	40 00	30 00
978	Mineral waters, natural or artificial ...	2 00	1 50
<i>Ad</i>	<i>Note.</i> —Are dutiable under this number: glasswares in combination with non-precious metals, even gilt or silvered, so far as not dutiable under No. 694; small wares ( <i>quincaillerie</i> ) and fancy articles of all kinds with		
1145			

\* Plain. † With moulding or beading.

‡ Carved, inlaid, with mosaic work, &amp;c.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***SWITZERLAND—AUSTRIA—HUNGARY—continued.**

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under the New Conventional Tariff.	Modified Duty applicable from the 1st Jan. to 28th Feb., 1906.
<i>Ad</i> 1116	the exception of imitation jewellery falling under Nos. 1144 and 1146, even composed wholly or partly of non-precious metals, gilt or silvered; also manufactures of glass, clay, celluloid, galalith, and similar common materials, even when made in imitation of the articles falling under No. 1144. <i>Note.</i> —Imitation jewellery, combined with silk, lace, or artificial flowers, or with imitations of agate, alabaster, meerschaum, rock crystal, amber, ivory, jet, lava, tortoise-shell, and mother-of-pearl, is dutiable under this number.		
<i>Ad</i> 1159 b	<i>Note.</i> —Inkstands, blotters, and other articles for writing tables, of non-precious metals, even gilt or silvered, are dutiable under this number.		

**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid," for the 16th December, contains the text of Bills submitting to the Cortes the following measures, which have been provisionally put into force by Decree, for Parliamentary sanction:—

(i.) The Provisional Commercial Agreement between Spain and Switzerland of the 29th August, 1905;\*

(ii.) The Decrees of the 6th April and 12th September, 1905, modifying the import duty on wheat and flour;†

(iii.) The Decree of 9th August, 1905, suspending the import duty on forage until the 31st March, 1906.‡

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st January contains a Royal Decree notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the second fortnight of December was 27·02 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payment of Customs duties which are made in gold, during the first fortnight of the present month, is to be 21 per cent.

**ITALY.**

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" for the 19th December contains a Law, dated 10th December, reducing the import duty on wheat flour imported into Italy from 12·30 lire to 11·50 lire per quintal (from 5s. to 4s. 8d. per cwt.).

\* See "Board of Trade Journal" for the 14th September, 1905, p. 500.

† " " " 4th May, 1905, pp. 208-9, and for 28th September, 1905, p. 594.

‡ See the "Board of Trade Journal" for 24th August, 1905, p. 357.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### NATAL.

The "Natal Government Gazette" notifies the amendment of the regulations as to light dues at Port Natal, to be in force as from the date of publication of the "Gazette," viz., 12th December, 1905.

#### Light Dues.

The new rules provide that all vessels, excepting those specified hereafter, anchoring off Port Natal or entering the Inner Harbour, shall pay light dues as follows:—(a) for each registered ton up to 500 tons, 2*d.* per ton; (b) for each registered ton over 500 tons, 1*d.* per ton; (c) for each ton of deck space occupied by cargo, 1*d.* per ton.

The following vessels shall be exempt from the operation of the foregoing rules:—(a) Vessels anchoring at the outer anchorage with either of the following objects, or from either of the following causes, and not landing or embarking passengers or cargo, that is to say:—Vessels (1), calling for orders (2), seeking freight, (3), in distress, etc.; provided as regards (2) that they arrive and leave in ballast. (b) Vessels entering the inner harbour for repairs, and not landing or embarking passengers or cargo. (c) Vessels of war.

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### EGYPT.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a new edition, dated January, 1906, of the Rules for the Navigation of the Suez Canal, which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

#### Suez Canal Navigation.

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### FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that an agreement has been entered into by the Local Administration and the owners of the steamer "Concordia" to ensure a regular steamship service between Madagascar and Durban, Natal.

#### S.S. Service between Madagascar and Durban.

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### CONGO FREE STATE.

The "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Antwerp states that a new steamship service on the Upper Congo, between Leopoldville and Stanleyville was inaugurated on 1st November. Three steamers of 150 tons and three of 35 tons are attached to this service which will run three times a month, the return journey being accomplished in 45 days.

#### New S.S. Service on the Congo.

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*Shipping and Transport.*

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**VENEZUELA.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Caracas (Mr. P. C. Wyndham), reports that the Port of Carenero has by official decree been closed from 30th November, 1905, the reason given being that there has been no import or export there since its establishment.

**Closing of the Port of Carenero.**

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**ARGENTINA.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres (Mr. F. D. Harford) reports with reference to the round-the-world steamship service inaugurated by the "Chargeurs Réunis" (see Board of Trade Journal," 4th January, 1906, p. 29), that their programme includes calling at Chilian ports to load nitrates, proceeding thence to Buenos Ayres to fill up with flour, wheat and wool, and after calling at Rio de Janeiro, returning to Japan *viâ* Cape Horn with the above products; importing in return into Argentina silks, fans and other Japanese manufactures.

**S.S. Service between Japan and Argentina.**

Mr. Harford is informed on good authority that, owing to the low freights which rule between Buenos Ayres and Cuba, it is now possible to ship flour and wheat thence to Cuba, by British vessels, owing to the high freights charged from the United States ports to Cuba, and that too in spite of preferential tariffs in favour of United States imports into Cuba.

**Low Freight Rates between Argentina and Cuba.**

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**URUGUAY.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Monte Video (Mr. A. Peel) reports that the department of Maldonado will shortly possess a large harbour at Piriapolis, which is at present merely a seaside resort. It is intended to make use of the natural advantages of the harbour formally known as "del Ingles," and it will therefore only be necessary to build a sea wall 242 metres in length. The depth of the harbour is stated to be  $5\frac{1}{2}$  metres, and will suffice for vessels drawing 16 feet of water, but should the sea-wall be prolonged to the extent of about 400 metres, the harbour will then be in a position to provide anchorage for vessels drawing 30 feet. It is also announced that warehouses are to be erected, and that a railway will connect the port with the neighbouring granite and marble quarries.

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**Proposed New Harbour at Piriapolis.**

## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### NEWFOUNDLAND.

Communications have been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Assistant Collector of Customs at Port St. John's, Newfoundland (Mr. H. W. Le Messurier), in the course of which he reports that the "talc" (French chalk) referred to in "Prowse's Newfoundland Guide Book" for 1905, is not, correctly speaking, "talc," and is only so called by American commercial men. The correct name of the mineral found near Conception Bay is "pyrophyllite." It differs from talc in composition and in being somewhat harder.

A large deposit of pyrophyllite occurs in the range of hills near Manueto, in Conception Bay, the quality of which is said to be excellent. The Company, which is now shipping to the American market, is composed principally of residents of the United States, and is called the "Newfoundland Talc Company." Another Company was, at the date of Mr. Le Messurier's report, being formed in London to work an adjoining property. Mr. Le Messurier adds that the surface mineral is quite hard, but when a few feet are removed it is very soft and easily powdered.

Small samples of the mineral in its crude state and in powder have been received from Mr. Le Messurier, and may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Mr. Le Messurier also sends a sample of shale, which occurs in large deposits in Newfoundland, adjacent to limestone. With regard to this, he writes:—"The analysis shows, silica, 54·72; oxide of iron and alumina, 28·76; magnesia, 4·22; sulphur, 0·41. Five parts of limestone and one part of the shale make the very finest of cement. The attention of British capitalists is desired to this property."

### BRAZIL.

The following table showing the exports of minerals from Brazil during the years 1902-4 is taken from the "Brazilian Review" of 5th December last:—

Exports of Minerals.					1902.	1903.	1904.
Monazite	...	...	...	Tons	1,205	3,299	4,860
Manganese	...	...	...	"	157,295	161,926	203,260
Mica and talc	...	...	...	"	11	7	14
Copper ore	...	...	...	"	234	316	610
Gold bar	...	...	...	Grammes	3,989,982	4,322,043	3,871,426
Diamonds	...	...	...	Value £	65,708	51,467	29,001
Carbonates	...	...	...	"	41,227	55,302	26,587
Other precious stones	...	...	...	"	3,600	6,813	10,369
Platinum	...	...	...	Grammes	—	1,315	2,122
Rock crystal	...	...	...	Tons	35	23	37
Agate	...	...	...	"	81	74	54

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.***ARGENTINA.**

H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.) has forwarded a report upon a coal deposit at Salagasta near Mendoza, drawn up by a local Engineer; from which it appears that the coal is a large pocket or patch, the centre of which runs more or less north and south, some 9 kilos. in length and averages about 1 kilo. wide. It is situated at "Los Corrillos" some 12 kilos. distant from the Argentine Great Western Railway at kilo. 379 between the stations Panqueau and Jocoli.

Mr. Ross adds that the coal has not yet been put on the market except in small quantities for domestic use locally.

**YARNS AND TEXTILES.****INDIA.**

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each province in British India, and in the Native States, during August of each of the years 1903, 1904, and 1905, and in the five months, April to August, 1903, 1904, and 1905.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above returns, giving particulars for the five months ended August, 1903, 1904, and 1905:—

		Five Months ended August.		
		1903.	1904.	1905.
<b>BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.</b>				
Cotton yarn spun ...	Lbs.	255,576,716	234,376,534	292,557,735
Cotton woven goods produced:—				
Grey goods ...	{ = Yards	45,146,916	49,495,395	56,182,735
Figured and coloured goods	Lbs.	186,171,574	211,419,758	236,532,053
Hosiery ...	Lbs.	8,845,717	8,925,444	11,337,374
Miscellaneous goods ...	"	248,597	253,759	178,311
	"	644,112	850,627	787,132

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to the undermentioned countries during the eleven months ended November, 1904 and 1905, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

**Exports of  
Cotton Goods.**

*Yarns and Textiles.*

To						Eleven months ended November.	
						1904.	1905.
<b>Coloured and uncoloured cloths—</b>						Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	2,001,870	3,026,581
France	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	76,693	162,327
Other Europe	...	...	...	...	...	1,301,339	1,876,839
British North America	...	...	...	...	...	8,150,749	8,819,408
Central America and British Honduras	...	...	...	...	...	22,199,189	25,753,314
Mexico	...	...	...	...	...	2,712,850	3,318,225
Cuba	...	...	...	...	...	11,341,502	23,126,771
Other West Indies and Bermuda	...	...	...	...	...	18,470,214	26,983,563
Argentina	...	...	...	...	...	2,166,238	3,485,413
Brazil	...	...	...	...	...	7,383,315	8,944,286
Chile	...	...	...	...	...	10,058,295	12,983,909
Colombia	...	...	...	...	...	14,389,475	8,870,196
Venezuela	...	...	...	...	...	6,115,924	6,783,361
Other South America	...	...	...	...	...	5,661,271	7,410,673
Chinese Empire	...	...	...	...	...	208,072,917	514,206,723
British East Indies	...	...	...	...	...	4,296,128	9,410,658
Hong-Kong	...	...	...	...	...	296,913	453,029
Japan	...	...	...	...	...	7,109,827	10,423,182
British Australasia	...	...	...	...	...	4,855,549	7,110,309
Philippine Islands	...	...	...	...	...	7,702,270	9,877,416
Other Asia and Oceania	...	...	...	...	...	22,668,264	20,688,945
British Africa	...	...	...	...	...	5,435,097	6,461,338
All other Africa	...	...	...	...	...	611,329	563,099
Total quantity	...	...	...	...	Yards	373,077,218	720,739,565
Total value	...	...	...	...	Dols.	22,019,619	43,458,653
<b>Other cotton goods—</b>						Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	1,136,573	1,024,289
Belgium	...	...	...	...	...	88,374	192,027
France	...	...	...	...	...	10,559	36,109
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	763,717	559,780
Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	26,558	31,638
Other Europe	...	...	...	...	...	83,451	80,775
British North America	...	...	...	...	...	2,237,132	2,273,280
Central America and British Honduras	...	...	...	...	...	552,190	600,380
Mexico	...	...	...	...	...	489,424	583,010
Cuba	...	...	...	...	...	334,685	383,914
Other West Indies and Bermuda	...	...	...	...	...	224,865	225,638
Argentina	...	...	...	...	...	196,922	307,589
Brazil	...	...	...	...	...	85,861	58,200
Chile	...	...	...	...	...	16,430	19,362
Colombia	...	...	...	...	...	99,976	43,684
Venezuela	...	...	...	...	...	33,427	22,120
Other South America	...	...	...	...	...	39,368	48,466
Chinese Empire	...	...	...	...	...	73,182	311,672
British East Indies	...	...	...	...	...	11,160	8,364
Hong-Kong	...	...	...	...	...	51,247	104,699
British Australasia	...	...	...	...	...	425,454	435,708
Philippine Islands	...	...	...	...	...	63,085	84,472
Other Asia and Oceania	...	...	...	...	...	185,634	249,461
British Africa	...	...	...	...	...	136,229	248,276
All other Africa	...	...	...	...	...	9,166	13,935
Other countries	...	...	...	...	...	3,566	5,899
Total value	...	...	...	...	Dols.	7,378,235	7,952,747
<b>Grand total value of all cotton goods exported</b>						<b>Dols.</b>	<b>51,411,400</b>

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 6th January, 1906, were as follows:—

#### Corn Prices.

Wheat	...	...	...	...	28s.	4d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	24s.	6d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	18s.	2d.

For further particulars see p. 89.

A statement is published on p. 90, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 6th January, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

#### Imports of Agricultural Produce.

### JAMAICA.

According to "Agricultural News," the organ of the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies, the Annual Report of the Collector General in Jamaica for 1904-5 contains interesting information in regard to the exports of the island and the progress of agricultural industries. Discussing the statistics relating to land under cultivation, the Collector General remarks:—

#### Agricultural Industry.

"It will be seen that the area registered as being in bananas has increased by no less than 11,014 acres, or 33 per cent.; cacao cultivation shows a satisfactory advance of 883 acres, or 19 per cent., and ground provisions 4,430 acres, or 4 per cent., while the area in canes, coffee, and cocoa-nuts continues to dwindle. It is a matter for regret that the more enduring, if less profitable, staples should be allowed to run in arrear, especially as there is no valid reason why an extension of area in canes and coffee should not keep pace with the extension of fruit cultivation. It is not necessary to abandon cane to take up fruit, nor to give the cold shoulder to coffee because yams are required on the Canal Zone. The increase in area in bananas is general throughout the banana-growing parishes. Among minor items the only point that calls for passing mention is the experimental cultivation of cotton in Clarendon and St. Catherine, where 18 acres are registered."

### BRAZIL.

The "Brazilian Review," of 19th December, announces that the Government of the Republic has decreed a prize of 30,000 dols. for anyone who exhibits 100,000 Maniçoba rubber trees within 18 months from the date of the announcement, and three other prizes of 15,000, 10,000, and 5,000 dollars respectively, for the three next largest plantations, the smallest of which, in order to gain a prize, must not be of less than 20,000 trees. It appears that, not to speak of the value of the rubber, the coffee trees benefit greatly by the shade afforded by the rubber trees.

#### Prizes for Rubber Cultivation.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 4th January, 1906, **Cotton Statistics.** was 152,191 (including 7 bales British West Indian and 14 bales British West African), the number exported being 8,754.

For further details see p. 89.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month and twelve months ended 31st December last, will be found on p. 88.

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### SOUTH AFRICA.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the South African Customs Statistical Bureau copies of the first quarterly **Customs Statistics.** Return issued by the Bureau since its establishment, the figures being for the three months ended 30th September, 1905. The tables comprised in this return are considerably more elaborated than those issued each month, and, in addition to statistics showing the trade of each colony, include tables relating to the trade within the Customs Union, and to **British South Africa as a whole**, which have not hitherto been collated for general information. The statistics for Basutoland are incomplete, no figures having yet been received at the Bureau from that Territory. Swaziland has been treated, statistically, as an integral part of the Transvaal.

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### CEYLON.

Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., Governor of Ceylon, in his address to the Legislative Council, stated **Pearl Fishery.** with regard to the pearl fishery of 1905, that it lasted from the 20th of February to the 21st of April. There were 48 working days on which oysters were brought into the camp. The Government share of the oysters fished amounted to 49,378,616, which realised Rs. 2,460,970. The net revenue to the Government from the fishery is estimated to be Rs. 2,303,864, which exceeds all known records, and is Rs. 1,445,898 more than the fishery of the previous year, which at the time constituted a record. To this total has still to be added the value

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*Miscellaneous.*

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of pearls recovered by Mr. Dixon's machine and sent to Bombay for sale.

The fishery was remarkable for the high prices fetched by the oysters, the number of buyers from all parts of India, and the size of the fishing fleet, which at the height of the fishery numbered 300 boats, being a hundred craft more than in previous years.

A proposal will be laid before the Legislative Council to lease the fishery for a period of 20 years to a company for a rent of Rs. 310,000 per annum, it being a stipulation that a sum of not less than Rs. 50,000 be expended annually on the scientific development of the banks. In addition to the sum named to be expended upon the fishery, the company is to pay all the expense of the Government protection and supervision of the annual camp.

In connection with the foregoing, it may be of interest to note that the "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 15th December contains the text of a draft Ordinance for the protection of the "window oyster" which furnishes a small pearl fishery at Tampalakan Bay, near Trincomalee. The exclusive right of fishing for these pearl oysters within scheduled limits is vested in the Crown.

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**FRANCE.**

The French "Journal Officiel" of 1st January contains the text of a Decree providing for a census to be taken on the 4th March next, of the population of the country.

**Forthcoming  
Census.**

The "Journal Officiel" of 8th January publishes a summary of the results of the census taken on 24th March, 1901, from which it appears that the population of France on that date was 38,450,788, viz., 18,916,889 males, and 19,533,899 females. The previous census, taken in 1896, showed a total population of 38,269,011, viz., 18,922,651 males, and 19,346,360 females.

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

According to a Bulletin on "American Cotton Supply and its Distribution for the year ended 31st August last," issued by the United States Department of Commerce and Labour, the exports of sea-island cotton this season amounted to 40,376 bales, or 15,906,269 pounds, valued at 3,223,271 dollars, or 20·3 cents per pound. The countries which take this cotton are the United Kingdom, France, Russia (European), Germany, and Canada. It is noteworthy that the export price per pound of sea-island cotton has remained prac-

**Exports of Sea  
Island Cotton.**

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*Miscellaneous.*

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tically the same since 1887, while the quantity of this cotton exported has increased from 21,829 to 40,376 bales. The export year of 1897 shows the largest quantity of sea-island cotton taken by foreign countries, the total for the year having reached 55,824 bales. The total exports of cotton (upland and sea-island) have increased during the period 1887-1905 from 4,463,009 to 8,834,929 bales, or 98.0 per cent., and in value from 204,740,804 dollars to 404,209,293 dollars. or 97.4 per cent. The highest average price per pound of upland cotton exported during any year since 1887 is that recorded for 1904, when the average was 12 cents. The next highest average price is 10.1 cents for 1890.

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**MEXICO.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Mexico City (Mr. W. G. Max Müller), in reporting on the progress of currency reform in Mexico, refers to the Decree issued on the 23rd November authorising the Exchange and Currency Commission to present gold at the Mint for coinage (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th December, p. 611), and states that apart from this special concession in favour of the above-mentioned Commission, gold, for the present, will only be coined for the purpose of replacing gold coins of anterior issues, which will cease to be legally current on or after 1st July, 1906.

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**BRAZIL.**

Referring to the notice on p. 39 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting the issue of a new silver coinage in Brazil, it appears from the "Brazilian Review," of 19th December, that the coins of 2 dols. and 1 dol. will be legal tender up to 20 dols., except by private arrangement, whilst those of 500 reis will be legal tender up to 10 dols.

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**URUGUAY.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Monte Video (Mr. A. Peel) reports that the "Telegrafo Marítimo" has published a circular, addressed by the Syndicate of Dealers in Hides and Skins at Havre to various export houses in the River Plate, calling attention to the insufficient salting, defective skinning, and unequal quality of the hides prepared at Monte Video, and warning them that unless some remedy is applied French tanners will obtain their supplies from other sources.

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# STATISTICAL TABLES.

## Cotton Returns.—December, 1905.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the Month and Twelve Months ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the corresponding Periods of the Year 1904.

	MONTH OF DECEMBER.		TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER.	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
IMPORTS.				
American ... ..	481,160	707,012	3,536,632	3,157,833
Brazilian ... ..	28,964	4,117	147,390	93,258
East Indian ... ..	14,432	2,623	81,687	193,522
Egyptian ... ..	68,542	77,302	497,133	449,457
Miscellaneous ... ..	4,565*	6,791	102,091†	95,388
Total ... ..	597,663	797,845	4,364,933	3,992,458
EXPORTS.				
American ... ..	17,918	32,039	262,723	218,863
Brazilian ... ..	2,595	500	6,914	5,242
East Indian ... ..	2,203	751	24,078	76,584
Egyptian ... ..	17,816	10,509	105,599	80,423
Miscellaneous ... ..	453	510	6,575	7,722
Total ... ..	40,985	44,309	405,889	388,834
FORWARDED from PORTS to INLAND TOWNS.				
American ... ..	239,112	284,049	3,023,946	2,461,340
Brazilian ... ..	18,408	3,651	100,137	78,191
East Indian ... ..	2,997	2,227	33,748	84,616
Egyptian ... ..	42,845	41,037	345,058	316,843
Miscellaneous ... ..	6,108	3,633	56,205	46,614
Total ... ..	309,470	334,597	3,559,094	2,987,604
FORWARDED from INLAND TOWNS to PORTS.				
American ... ..	32	121	2,497	3,253
Brazilian ... ..	—	—	—	—
East Indian ... ..	—	—	—	—
Egyptian ... ..	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ... ..	—	—	—	4
Total ... ..	32	121	2,497	3,257

\* Including 82 bales British West Indian and 137 bales British West African.

† Including 4,140 bales British West Indian and 3,591 bales British West African.

## Cotton Returns—continued.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week ended 4th January, 1906.

						Week ended 4th Jan., 1906.	Week ended 4th Jan., 1906.
						IMPORTS. (Bales.)	EXPORTS. (Bales.)
						No.	No.
American ...	...	...	...	...	...	115,880	3,549
Brazilian ...	...	...	...	...	...	7,518	—
East Indian ...	...	...	...	...	...	4,376	791
Egyptian ...	...	...	...	...	...	20,663	4,377
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	...	3,754*	37
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	152,191	8,754

\* Including 7 bales British West Indian and 14 bales British West African.

## Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 6th January, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

						Average Price.					
						Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
						s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 6th January, 1906	...	...	...	...	...	28	4	24	6	18	2
Corresponding week in—											
1899 ...	...	...	...	...	...	27	2	28	2	17	1
1900 ...	...	...	...	...	...	25	11	25	5	16	3
1901 ...	...	...	...	...	...	26	7	25	6	17	3
1902 ...	...	...	...	...	...	27	8	26	7	20	0
1903 ...	...	...	...	...	...	24	11	24	1	17	0
1904 ...	...	...	...	...	...	26	6	22	6	15	7
1905 ...	...	...	...	...	...	30	4	24	4	16	3

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

### Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 6th January, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 6th Jan., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	10,704	8,943
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	843	6,172
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	169	82
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	94,050	52,382
Mutton ... ..	"	75,430	66,577
Pork ... ..	"	12,256	14,251
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	114,052	92,099
Beef ... ..	"	3,294	1,770
Hams ... ..	"	21,343	18,480
Pork ... ..	"	2,894	3,204
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	10,903	7,238
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	21,159	24,432
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	82,155	91,640
Margarine ... ..	"	17,975	13,653
Cheese ... ..	"	53,478	32,177
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	—	—
" cream ... ..	"	66	55
" condensed ... ..	"	16,081	14,024
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	218	30
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hndr.	306,732	258,367
Poultry ... ..	Value £	19,583	25,901
Game ... ..	"	3,390	2,174
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	10,015	13,066
Lard ... ..	"	39,085	31,837
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,481,200	1,954,600
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	331,200	148,700
Barley ... ..	"	243,900	398,700
Oats ... ..	"	184,800	300,400
Peas ... ..	"	16,480	29,450
Beans ... ..	"	3,880	27,710
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	686,100	786,300
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	63,697	61,279
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	15	1
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	109,617	45,526
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	167	282
Lemons ... ..	"	28,395	23,046
Oranges ... ..	"	192,285	186,286
Pears ... ..	"	79	435
Plums ... ..	"	—	—
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	456	553
Hay... ..	Tons.	1,332	1,343
Straw ... ..	"	1,690	2,165
Moss Litter ... ..	"	2,779	1,311
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	11,113	4,623
Locust Beans ... ..	"	20,260	37,100
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	101,740	84,895
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	4,856	20,400
Tomatoes ... ..	"	11,484	8,932
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	4,290	5,495
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>			
Preserved by canning... ..	Cwts.	7,388	1,662
	"	2,208	3,200

# Passengers to Places out of Europe during December and the year 1905.

Return of the Numbers and Nationalities of the Passengers that left the United Kingdom for Places out of Europe (distinguishing the principal Countries in which the Passengers contracted to land) during the Month ending 31st December, 1905, and the Twelve Months ending 31st December, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

Nationality.	BRITISH EMPIRE.						FOREIGN COUNTRIES.			Grand Total.	Total for corresponding Period of 1904.
	British North America.	Australia and New Zealand.	British South Africa.	India, including Ceylon.	Other British Colonies and Possessions.	Total.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.		
Month ending 31st December.											
English ... ..	937	853	1,324	291	438	3,843	2,869	503	3,372	7,215	7,677
Welsh ... ..	184	169	265	13	8	639	705	56	761	1,400	1,381
Irish ... ..	55	96	84	4	7	246	637	26	663	909	1,094
Total of British origin.	1,176	1,118	1,673	308	453	4,728	4,211	585	4,796	9,524	10,152
Foreign ... ..	1,045	29	541	6	29	1,650	7,426	327	7,753	9,403	13,268
Nationalities not distinguished ... ..	3	—	—	118	237	358	29	227	256	614	658
Total ... ..	2,224	1,147	2,214	432	719	6,736	11,666	1,139	12,805	19,541	24,078
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	2,374	1,045	2,080	582	713	6,794	16,376	908	17,284	24,078	
Twelve Months ending 31st December.											
English ... ..	64,877	12,442	20,541	4,395	4,208	106,463	58,233	5,809	64,042	170,505	175,733
Welsh ... ..	14,233	1,876	4,517	286	201	21,113	19,797	668	20,465	41,578	37,445
Irish ... ..	3,347	863	1,225	35	49	5,519	44,359	277	44,636	50,155	53,257
Total of British origin.	82,457	15,181	26,283	4,716	4,458	133,095	122,389	6,754	129,143	262,238	271,435
Foreign ... ..	25,645	345	4,859	156	333	31,338	152,894	4,261	157,155	188,493	174,354
Nationalities not distinguished ... ..	43	5	—	2,492	2,398	4,938	1,431	2,817	4,248	9,186	8,088
Total ... ..	108,145	15,531	31,142	7,364	7,189	169,371	276,714	13,832	290,546	459,917	453,877
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	91,684	14,210	32,278	7,054	6,943	152,169	291,945	9,763	301,708	453,877	

NOTE.—The above figures being made up at the earliest possible date after the close of each month, are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

## Alien Immigration from the Continent of Europe during December and the Year 1905.

Statement showing the Number of **Alien** Passengers that **Arrived** from the Continent (whether in transit or not) at Ports in the **United Kingdom** during the Month and Twelve Months ending 31st December, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

(Compiled from the Alien Lists received by the Customs under Act 6 Will. 4, c. 11, sec.

Ports of Arrival in United Kingdom.	CONTINENTAL PORTS OF EMBARKATION.															
	Hamburg, Bremen, and Bremerhaven.		Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Antwerp.		Scandinavian Ports.		Finnish Ports.		Libau.		Dieppe.		Other Continental Ports.		Total	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
(i.) Month ending 31st December.																
London ...	1,517	2,893	817	1,664	53	100	...	2	796	972	...	...	132	398	3,315	6,111
Grimsby ...	846	1,467	717	1,245	310	533	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,873	3,111
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	218	179	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	218	179
Hull ...	239	206	160	582	680	488	1,470	1,747	1,321	225	...	...	1	9	3,874	3,111
Tyne Ports ...	6	19	45	14	329	295	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	3	394	311
Leith ...	28	68	24	46	27	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	15	114	114
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	936	805	...	...	936	805
Other Ports ..	4	18	322	96	40	35	...	1	...	...	...	...	814	567	1,180	1,180
Total ...	2,640	4,671	2,085	3,647	1,657	1,642	1,470	1,750	2,120	1,197	936	805	996	992	11,904	17,411
(ii.) Twelve Months ending 31st December.																
London ...	15,953	18,537	14,220	18,464	1,621	2,219	...	3	8,040	8,689	...	...	3,608	3,644	43,442	51,111
Grimsby ...	11,266	11,226	8,658	18,160	10,928	11,717	1	...	...	...	3	3	18	14	30,874	41,111
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	8,902	7,114	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,902	7,114
Hull ...	3,428	3,572	4,656	6,932	31,917	30,005	20,011	10,173	6,958	5,245	...	...	330	601	67,300	56,111
Tyne Ports ...	359	336	448	565	8,057	7,167	1	211	...	...	...	...	183	233	9,078	8,111
Leith ...	737	889	1,515	1,128	486	367	...	...	87	11	...	...	693	612	3,518	3,111
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,847	14,858	37	58	13,884	14,111
Other Ports ..	246	307	4,071	2,284	1,677	1,548	8	31	1	6	4	1	13,524	8,063	19,531	12,111
Total ...	32,019	34,860	33,568	47,533	63,588	60,137	20,021	10,448	15,086	13,951	13,854	14,862	18,393	13,225	196,529	194,111

**NOTES:—(i.) ALIENS IN TRANSIT.**—The above totals include Aliens in transit, but the number of such Aliens cannot be stated, as particulars on this point are not required by law to be furnished. At some ports, however, it is the usual practice to state on the Alien Lists the number of Aliens known to be "*en route* to other countries." The total number so described in December, 1905, was 5,671, compared with 4,949 in December, 1904. In the twelve months ending December, 1905, the number was 108,347 compared with 99,278 in the twelve months ending December, 1904. These figures, however, are incomplete for the reasons stated, and many Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as "*en route* to other countries," are in fact, known by special enquiry, to have been also in transit.

**(ii.) SAILORS.**—The number of sailors included with the Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as "*en route* to other places out of the United Kingdom in the month of December, 1905, was 1,138, and 1,025 in the same month of 1904. In the twelve months ending December, 1905, the number was 13,773, and in the same months of 1904 the number was 12,866.

**(iii.) SCOPE OF THE RETURNS.**—The ports from which Alien Lists are received are Aberdeen, Belfast, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Dover, Dublin, Folkestone, Glasgow, Goole, Grangemouth, Granton, Greenock, Grimsby, Harwich, Hull, Kirkcaldy, Leith, Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newhaven, Newport, North Shields, South Shields, Southampton, Sunderland, and West Hartlepool. The lists received from Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Newhaven, and Southampton show only deck passengers, and persons who, after landing, proceed by train as third-class passengers.

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 1d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the December issue:—State of the Labour Market in November; Relief of the Unemployed; Pauperism in the United Kingdom; Relief Works in German Towns; Recent Cases under the Conciliation Act.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in a Consular Report of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

#### No. 3,521. Trade of Santos, 1902-04.

Increase in imports of British origin in 1904, but at a lower rate of improvement than France or Germany.

Statistics of imports of goods (*a*) in which the United Kingdom is first; (*b*) in which the United Kingdom is losing ground; (*c*) in which the

United Kingdom has lost the market.

Classes of goods worth attention.

Statistics of exports.

Influence on imports of the reduction of duties on flour, clocks, condensed milk, paints, and rubber goods, conceded to the United States.

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*Government Publications.*

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**OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*Statistical Abstract for the several British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates in each year from 1890 to 1904. Forty-second Number. [Cd. 2,679.] Price 1s. 9d.*

This publication, which is prepared annually in the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade, contains in a succinct form the principal official data regarding the trade, shipping, agriculture, revenue and expenditure, &c., of the various British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates, as well as an abstract of the rates of import duty levied in the various Colonies on the principal articles of trade. Statistics of the number of immigrants into and emigrants from various British Colonies and Possessions, distinguishing indentured East Indian immigrants, appear for the first time in the present issue of the "Abstract."

*Correspondence relating to Railway Construction in Nigeria. [Cd. 2,787.] Price 3s. 6d.*

This publication contains copies of correspondence conducted in the years 1892-1905 between the Crown Agents for the Colonies, the Governors of Lagos and Nigeria, and various engineering firms on the improvement of Lagos Harbour and the construction of railways in Nigeria and other parts of West Africa. Several plans, maps and diagrams are included in the report.

*China No. 2 (1905). Report by Mr. Walter J. Clennell, H.M. Consul at Kiukiang, on a Journey in the Interior of Kiangsi. [Cd. 2,762.] Price 8½d.*

This report contains a description of the country in the interior of Kiangsi, more particularly with reference to the district surrounding Lake Poyang. A sketch map of the Lake and district is appended to the report.

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## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1d. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

**THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.**—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

*March, 1905.*

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*March, 1905.*

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

January 18, 1906.

[No. 477

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 143.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe- { Tientsin	14th Dec., 1905	509
tition with British in ... { Shanghai	5th Oct., 1905	10
Brazilian hemp ... ..	7th Sept., 1905	468
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 144.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Creosoted timber sleepers; bench vices; sheet lead; locomotive brass tubes; wood handles; zinc sheets, &c.; plumbago

## *Openings for British Trade.*

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### BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

crucibles; brass and iron screws and split pins; galvanised wrought-iron water tubes.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned. Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Creosoted Timber Sleepers," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 25th January. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

The Board of Directors of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders

**Deck Bridges.** for deck bridges as per specification and drawings which may be seen at the offices of the Company, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. The charge for each specification is one guinea, which will not be returned. Tenders, marked "Tender for Deck Bridges," must be sent in addressed to the Secretary, not later than noon on Tuesday, the 30th January. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that there is a large demand for glass beads in Calcutta: this has

**Glass Beads.** hitherto been met mainly from Italy. A certain number of Italian and Austrian importers appear lately to have been somewhat neglecting this market, complaints are being made that they do not sufficiently study the taste of their clients. This would therefore appear an opportune moment, remarks the "Bulletin," for an attempt to secure this market.

According to the "Bulletin Commercial," the value of the annual imports of bottles into Calcutta amounts to about

**Bottles.** 250,000 rupees (about 16,060*l.*). The imports consist chiefly of medicine bottles, which are sent in large quantities: these must be flat-shaped, and transparent or semi-transparent. There is also a fairly large demand for round wine bottles, of the capacity of a quart; these are used for retailing spirits of wine, disinfectants, &c. Articles known in the trade as confectionery bottles are also in demand; these are imported by retailers of pastilles, &c., who buy their wares in cases of 1 cwt. and bottle them for retailing. Medicine bottles are mainly imported from Germany; the other kinds of bottles from the United Kingdom.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**CANADA.**

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.** Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A firm of egg and butter importers in Wales have asked to be furnished with the names of reliable Canadian shippers of eggs.

A Yorkshire firm of importers dealing in poultry ask to be referred to shippers in Canada with whom they can establish business relations.

A London firm dealing in metals ask to be placed in connection with mining companies and others in Canada shipping antimony ore.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A request has been received from Nova Scotia for catalogues of English makers of gasolene engines, marine, small sizes.

A Canadian firm of importers have asked for names of English exporters of Stilton cheese, together with prices, terms, &c.

A Canadian firm in touch with the confectionery and drug trades, ask to be placed in communication with British houses desirous of doing business in the Dominion.

An agent in Montreal, offering good references, is seeking the representation in Canada of railway supplies houses who may be requiring such services as he can offer.

**Foreign Enquiries.**—A Swiss firm point out that there is a good market for fat young oxen from Canada, and have requested to be placed in touch with first-class live-stock exporters in the Dominion.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.** Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A Belfast firm invite correspondence from Canadian manufacturers of doors.

Enquiry has been received as to the possibility of obtaining supplies of pitch blende from Canada.

A Yorkshire firm manufacturing oil engines wish to get into communication with Canadian dealers prepared to do business in same.

A firm manufacturing cotton wool for medical and surgical purposes are prepared to appoint suitable Canadian resident agent.

### *Openings for British Trade.*

**Canadian Enquiry.**—A Toronto importing firm desire samples and quotations of cotton waste, and would be pleased to hear from United Kingdom manufacturers interested.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" of 25th November announces that tenders will be received at the **Telephone Wall Sets.** office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Brisbane, up till noon on Monday, 19th February, for the supply, at the Departmental Stores, Brisbane, of fifty Telephone Wall Sets.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the General Post Offices, Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Adelaide.

### EGYPT.

A recent report by the German Consul in Alexandria comments on the increasing demand for starch in Egypt. **Starch.** Excepting for the limited output of a wheat-starch factory in Cairo, supplies are entirely dependent on importations, and these have doubled during the last five years.

The trade is chiefly in wheat and maize-starch, and only to a limited extent in rice-starch. The former are used largely in the manufacture of Oriental confectionery—namely, the so-called Rahat-Lakoum, which is the most prized of Grecian, Syrian and Arabian sweetmeats. This starch is only required in the larger lumps, and should have a blueish colour.

The principal exporting countries are France, Belgium, Austria-Hungary, the United Kingdom and Germany. From Syria, also, a certain amount is imported, but the pieces are too small and the colour is yellow.

As regards payment, the custom of the trade is cash 80 days after receipt of goods, with 2 to 3 per cent. discount.

### NORWAY.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray), a notification **Fencing Materials.** to the effect that tenders are invited for the supply of fencing materials to the Norwegian State Railways. The goods required are as follows:—

186,400 kilos. of strand (wire No. 15) galvanised fence wire  
No. 5 (B.W.G.); sample with tender.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**NORWAY**—*continued.*

80,950 rolled U-shaped iron posts (as per drawing) of different lengths.

77,800 rolled T-shaped iron posts (as per drawing).

108,000 metres long galvanised fence netting (as per drawings) of different heights.

150 rolled U-shaped iron posts (as per drawing).

Tenders from British firms should be lodged in Christiania by their properly accredited agents not later than 3 p.m. on the 2nd February, 1906. A copy of the conditions of tender (which also states the places of delivery, and the amount of goods to be delivered at each place, &c.), together with a set of drawings, may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

NOTE.—Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts, it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have further been notified by the British Vice-Consul

**Railway Material.** at Trondhjem that tenders are invited for the supply of the following material:—

*Alternative 1—*

979 tons (4,790) steel rails of varying lengths.

52 „ fishplates.

45 „ dogs (as per sketch).

61,600 underlayer plates.

*Alternative 2—*

1,268 tons (6,200) steel rails of varying lengths.

67 „ fishplates.

46 „ dogs (as per sketch).

84,000 underlayer plates.

The material is to be delivered c.i.f. Thamshavn pr. Trondhjem as follows:—250 tons rails, 27 tons fishplates, 1·68 tons bolts, 0·97 tons (54,000) dogs in June, 1906; one-half of the remainder in March, 1907; and the rest in June, 1907.

Tenders are to be addressed “Chr. Salvesen and Chr. Thams’s Communications Aktieselskab, Thamshavn, Trondhjem,” and will be received up to 15th February next.

Translations of the specification and conditions of tender, together with drawings, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### NETHERLANDS.

According to the "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) the "Dorps vereeniging" in Den Bommel, Over Flakkee, will shortly invite tenders for the supply of 106,000 kilogs. super-phosphate, 32,000 kilogs. ammoniacal super-phosphate and other artificial manures; and the Agricultural Association Klundert for the supply of 200,000 kilogs. superphosphate and 43,000 kilogs. Chili saltpetre.

Further, the Co-operative Committee at Uithuizerermeeden (Groningen) invite tenders, up to the 23rd January, for the supply of 380,000 kilogs. superphosphate 18 per cent.; 18,900 kilogs. ditto 12/14 per cent.; 86,200 kilogs. ditto ammoniacal; 39,000 kilogs. Chili saltpetre, &c.

#### BELGIUM.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) that the Municipal Authorities of that city are calling for tenders for the supply and installation of a heating apparatus in the new Flemish theatre in course of construction there. A deposit of 6,000 francs (240*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The specification ("cahier des charges") relating to the contract may be obtained, price 5*d.* each, from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the "Collège des Bourgomestre et Echevins de la ville d'Anvers," and should reach the Hôtel de Ville not later than the 15th February.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Ghent reports that the municipal authorities there are calling for tenders for the laying of crane-rails at the port of Ghent, at an estimated cost of 940*l.* A deposit of 60*l.* is required to qualify any tender. Tenders should reach the Hôtel de Ville, Ghent, not later than the 19th January. A copy of the specification may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall-street, E.C.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) announces that tenders are invited for the supply of electric light and power to the Commune of Gilly. They should be sent by registered letter not later than the 26th January to the Hôtel Communal, Gilly. Further information may be obtained from the Administration Communale at that place.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**BELGIUM**—*continued.*

The "Moniteur" announces also that tenders are invited for the installation of low pressure steam heating apparatus at Tongres Prison. They should be submitted by registered letter to M. J. de Rode, Secretary-General to the Ministry of Justice, rue Ducale 55, Brussels, not later than the 30th January.

Specification and plan may be consulted at Tongres Prison, as well as at the Musée commercial, rue des Augustins 15, Brussels.

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**FRANCE.**

The United States Consul at Nantes has reported to his Government that an excellent market can, in his opinion, be worked up at Nantes and other places in France for the sale of certain kinds of house and office furniture; for example, the cheaper grades of oak and ash furniture of all kinds, bed-room sets, chairs, armchairs, rockers, hall stands, &c.

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**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 10th January, contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the Chief Telegraph Office, 10, Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 10,000 pine telegraph posts, 7, 8 and 10 metres long, impregnated with creosote, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta."

The "Gaceta" of 13th January contains a similar notice, inviting tenders for the supply of 10,000 telegraph posts impregnated with sulphate of copper, Boucherie system.

The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 11 pesetas per post of 7 metres, 13 pesetas per post of 8 metres, and 17 pesetas per post of 10 metres in the case of those impregnated with creosote; and 12 pesetas per post of 6½ to 7 metres, 17 pesetas per post of 8 metres, and 24 pesetas per post of 10 metres in the case of those impregnated with sulphate of copper.

A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods tendered for will be required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 12th January, publishes a Law sanctioning a special credit of 100,000 pesetas (about 3,327*l.*) for repairs to submarine cables.

**Submarine Cable  
Materials.**

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### SPAIN—*continued.*

The same issue of the "Gaceta" publishes a notification to the effect that the Eastern Tramways Co., of Madrid, has obtained the concessions for the construction of the electric tramway in that city, of which particulars were published on p. 582 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th September, 1905.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

According to the "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Barcelona the "Catalana" Omnibus Company (animal traction) of that city have recently made successful trials with a motor bus, and it is hoped shortly that their entire service will be carried on by means of these vehicles. As soon as the necessary municipal formalities have been complied with, it is thought that the motor buses of this company will run from Barcelona to Gracia, to Sans, to San Gervasio, and to San Andrés.

The "Bulletin" also reports that a project is under consideration for the carrying out of irrigation works at Tudela for the purpose of watering an area of about 1,400 hectares (3,780 acres). To accomplish this it is proposed to raise the waters of the Ebro to a height of 48 mètres. The estimated cost of the work is 500,000 pesetas (about 16,600*l.*).

### ITALY.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 10th January contains a Law sanctioning the expenditure of 2,500,000 lire (about 100,000*l.*) by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs on the erection of new telegraph lines and the improvement of existing lines between the following towns:—Genoa and Messina, Naples and Turin, Bari and Florence, Reggio (Calabria) and Naples, Rome and Venice, Genoa and Milan, Florence and Milan, Milan and Venice. The expenditure is to be spread over a period of seven years; 300,000 lire (about 12,000*l.*) is to be spent in each of the years 1906-8 and 400,000 lire (about 16,000*l.*) in each of the years 1909-12.

### GREECE.

The United States Consul at Athens states that fire extinguishing apparatus, particularly chemical extinguishers, could be sold in Greece if proper efforts were made by manufacturers. There are many fine buildings in Athens and the outlying districts, both public and private, and the provisions for fighting fire, he

### *Openings for British Trade.*

writes, are very inadequate. Chemical fire extinguishers are practically unknown; they are not even to be found in the royal or municipal theatres, nor in the various palaces of the royal families.

In a large majority of the cities of the Kingdom the water supply is inadequate, and, in almost every instance where plenty of water exists, fire-fighting appliances are not to be found. Such are the general conditions of fire extinguishing in Greece, which lead the Consul to believe that there should be a market there for a good extinguishing appliance—one that could be used in case of emergency by whoever happened to be on the spot. It would be necessary, he adds, for the agent to be there with his extinguisher, and to give public demonstrations of its efficiency.

#### ROUMANIA.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) reports that tenders are invited up to the 25th January for  
**Zinc Plates :** 20,000 kilogs. of zinc plates and 2,800 kilogs.  
**Chains.** of chains of various dimensions, by the General  
 Direction of the Roumanian Railways, Bucharest.

According to the "Tagblatt" (Bucharest) permission has been sought for the lighting by electricity of the  
**Electric** town of Focsani, at an estimated cost of  
**Lighting Plant.** 13,920l.

The "Primarie" of Bucharest has, according to the "Tagblatt" of that city, completed the plans for a new tramway line connecting the middle of the town with the Jubilee Exhibition.  
**Tramway**  
**Construction.**

According to a report by the German Consul in Jassy, published in the "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), the Jassy District Council have decided on the conditions to be offered in connection with a concession for the supply of water to the town, and will shortly make them public. It is stated in the local press that the concession will be for fifty years. The water is to be brought from Timisesti, in the district Niamtz, and 15,000 cub. m. water are to be supplied daily. The concessionnaire will probably be guaranteed a minimum income of between 8,000l. and 12,000l.

#### MONTENEGRO.

H.M. Minister Resident at Cetinje (Mr. R. J. Kennedy, C.M.G.), reports that the "Sindicato per il Porto e la Ferrovia di Antivari," the head office of which is at Venice, has received a 50 years' concession from the Montenegrin Government for running steamers for passengers and goods upon the  
**Steamers :**  
**Harbour Works :**  
**Railway Con-**  
**struction.**

### *Openings for British Trade.*

Lake of Scutari, as well as for building a harbour at Antivari, and a light railway from Antivari to Vir Bazaar. Both the harbour works and the railway will, it is said, be finished in two years' time. The Sindicato has already placed one steamer upon the Lake, which carries on a bi-weekly service between Rieka and the Albanian town of Scutari. It is probable that the Sindicato will build a light railway between Plavnitza and Podgoritza, the chief commercial town of Montenegro.

#### **OTTOMAN EMPIRE.**

According to the "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels," (Brussels) the Administration of the Hedjaz Railway, Constantinople, will shortly be contracting for the supply of 13,000 tons of steel rails.

**Steel Rails.**

#### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn), that an enquiry has been made at his Consulate for the names of British manufacturers of air guns, including those made like walking sticks.

Communications should be addressed to H.M. Consul, British Consulate, Chicago.

**Air Guns.**

#### **MEXICO.**

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 25th December contains the text of a contract, entered into between the Mexican Government and Mr. Richard Honey, for the construction of a railway between Pachuca, the chief town of the State of Hidalgo, and Zimapan, passing through Actopan and Ixmiquilpan. The concessionnaire may, if he thinks fit, extend the line to Tampico, and construct branch lines not exceeding 50 kilometres in length.

The "Diario" of 26th December, contains a similar contract, entered into with Mr. John Henderson, for the construction of a railway between the port of Lobos, situated on the Gulf of California, and Caborca, in the District of Altar.

In both cases, five years' free importation of materials and goods enumerated in Article 74 of the Railway Law are allowed.

The "Diario" of 26th December notifies an application from Mr. T. Macmanus for an appropriation of 20,000 litres of water per second from the river Oro, State of Guerrero, for the production of motive power.

**Hydro-electric Plant.**

The same issue of the "Diario" contains the text of a contract entered into with Mr. A. Stein for the appropriation of 60,000 litres per second from the river Yaqui, State of Sonora, for the production of motive power and other industrial purposes.

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*Openings for British Trade.*


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**CHILE.**

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 27th November notifies an application by Señor Osvaldo Cámos for permission to construct a steam or electric railway  
**Railway Plant.** (0.762 metre gauge) from the Caleta Chimba to Antofagasta, a distance of about 12 kilometres.

The "Diario" of 30th November contains a Decree granting the  
**Electrical Plant.** "Compañía General de Electricidad" a concession for supplying the town of La Cruz, Department of Quillota, with electric light, heat and motive power.

The "Diario" of 2nd December contains a Decree authorising the Director of Public Works to invite tenders for the construction of a bridge over the river  
**Bridgework.** Aconcagua, at Calera.

The same issue of the "Diario" contains a Decree authorising the Directorate General of State Railways to purchase two first-class carriages, two third-class carriages, and two mixed first and third-class carriages for the Rivadavia Railway.  
**Railway Carriages.**

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**BRAZIL.**

In an extract from the recent report of H.M. Consul at Santos, published on pp. 111-12, special attention  
**Articles which might find a Sale at Santos.** is called to certain classes of goods for that market.

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**ARGENTINA.**

The "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Buenos Ayres announces that, in virtue of the powers conferred by a recent law voted by the Argentine Congress, the Executive have appointed four Commissions charged with the duty of studying simultaneously the construction of commercial ports for foreign ships at Mar del Plata, Bahia Blanca, Quequen and Patagones.  
**Port Works.**

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**CHINA.**

A recent report by the United States Consul-General at Shanghai, regarding the use of fire extinguishers in that town, states that the construction of native houses in Shanghai, as well as in nearly all other large Chinese cities, being principally wooden, renders the danger of destructive fires great, and as a consequence, through the desire of the people themselves, and by  
**Fire Extinguishing Apparatus.**

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### CHINA—continued.

reason of the demands of the insurance companies, there has been quite a large sale of fire extinguishers of many kinds. It is believed that the Chinese would welcome improved fire extinguishing apparatus.

The following information regarding openings for vehicles in China is taken from a report by the United States Special Agent at Shanghai:—

#### Vehicles.

“Carriages and bicycles are used extensively in Shanghai by both foreigners and natives, while motor cars are beginning to be introduced among those who can afford the luxury. . . . The carriages most popular in Shanghai are the victorias and broughams, both heavy vehicles, but apparently easily drawn by the hardy little Chinese ponies, which greatly outnumber the Australian horses imported for this purpose. . . .

“The retail price of a victoria on this market, fitted with iron tyres, is approximately 500 Shanghai taels (about 70*l.*); fitted with the ordinary rubber tyre, about 84*l.*; and fitted with the cup-wired rubber tyre, about 90*l.*

“The victoria style of carriage has no competition here for the reason that there has apparently been no effort made toward the introduction of a lighter, less cumbersome, and possibly less expensive vehicle. If the manufacturer could export to China a low-wheeled surrey, built to fit a Chinese pony of 13 to 13·2 hands high and lay it down here at a price that could compete with the heavier victoria, it is reasonable to assume that a satisfactory market could be established. Because of the narrow streets the cut under should always be used to facilitate turning, and if after an investigation of the conditions obtaining here a carriage manufacturer should decide to introduce his goods, he should never lose sight of the necessity for a vehicle so constructed as to make a short turn. . . .

“The broughams are used extensively by the natives, and few well-equipped stables belonging to foreigners are without them. Not only are the rains in China of sufficiently frequent occurrence to make a closed carriage desirable, but the well-known desire of the Chinese for seclusion and immunity from observation both tend to popularise this type of vehicle.”

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### EXHIBITIONS.

#### UNITED KINGDOM.

The Board of Trade have received a prospectus of an Automobile Exhibition to be held at the Crystal Palace from the 26th January to the 3rd February next.

**Automobile  
Exhibition.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

A copy of the prospectus of the second Scottish International Furnishing Trades' Exhibition to be held in St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, from 1st to 8th March next, has also been received; together with a copy of the rules and regulations of the 10th annual International Furnishing Trades' Exhibition, to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, from 17th to 27th April, 1906.

**Furnishing Trades  
Exhibitions at  
Glasgow, and  
Agricultural  
Hall, London.**

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**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 11th January contains a Decree authorising the "Unión Ibero Americana" to hold an International Exhibition in Madrid in 1908. The concession will lapse unless a commencement is made with the exhibition buildings within six months of the publication of the Decree, and unless the sum of 1,000,000 pesetas (about 32,200*l.*) is guaranteed for the completion of the buildings.

**Proposed  
International  
Exhibition at  
Madrid, 1908.**

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**

The French Consul-General at Trieste reports that the Trieste Chamber of Commerce has decided on the establishment of a commercial museum where the fullest information will be available as to trade, industry and shipping: a permanent exhibition of samples will be attached to the museum. A preliminary credit of 15,000 crowns (about 600*l.*) has been sanctioned by the Chamber for this institution.

**Commercial  
Museum at  
Trieste.**

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**ARGENTINA.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres (Mr. F. D. Harford) reports that, under the title of the British Argentine Exhibition, a very interesting and successful exhibition was held at Buenos Ayres on the 25th to the 29th of November inclusive. The objects of the exhibition as defined by the promoters were firstly, to show as far as possible the extent of British influence in the rise and progress of the Argentine Republic, socially, economically and commercially; secondly to create an interest in the due and proper representation of the British Section in the Centenary Celebration of 1910.

**Proposed British  
Section at  
Exhibition at  
Buenos Ayres,  
1910.**

The Minister for Foreign Affairs made a speech testifying to the great benefits the Argentine Republic has derived from British capital and enterprise, and lectures were subsequently given on the same theme.

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes:—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their commercial products, industries, trade, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**Santos.**—In his recent report on the trade of Santos during the years 1902-4, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. F. W. Mark) writes:—

“The increase in imports of British origin in 1904 compared with 1903 was 13·5 per cent., and considerably above the general average increase of imports from all countries, which was only 5·1 per cent., the increase for Germany being 17·6 per cent., and for France 29·5 per cent., whilst imports from the United States show a shrinkage of 15·2 per cent. Although British exports for Santos have improved, the rate of improvement is less compared with some other countries. This, it must be remembered, is occurring in a market where there is no advantage for German or, indeed, for goods of any other origin, except the five articles for which America secured preferential treatment. The tendency is symptomatic of our trade in South America and requires to be carefully watched.”

Mr. Mark gives three tables in his report showing the total values of the imports of articles (*a*) in which the United Kingdom is indisputably first; (*b*) in which she is still to the fore, but in which other countries are already encroaching; and (*c*) those she has practically lost or abandoned to other countries. British traders interested should obtain a copy of the report (Annual Series, 3,521) from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Mr. Mark goes on to say:—

“To push British trade it is necessary, whilst sparing no effort to preserve the practical monopolies we still have, to leave our competitors no rest, but meet them on their own ground and undersell them again in the markets they have deprived us of. As a means to that end it has been suggested to me that a series of exhibitions should be held in the United Kingdom of samples of the articles of classes B and C with which our manufacturers have to face the fiercest competition. These samples should be bought in the different towns along the coast and exhibited in the manufacturing towns of the United Kingdom. A commencement might be made with paper and its manufactures, going on to glass, china and earthenware, and so on through the list. Investigations and exhibitions of the kind suggested, to be useful should not be too ambitious, but embrace only one or two branches of manufacture at a time. . . .

“The necessity should be urged on merchants of giving particular attention to this market, especially in those branches which, in spite of improved economic conditions, show a decline instead of improvement as compared with 1903, viz. :—

“Zinc, bar and sheet iron, jute yarn, hosiery, linen yarn, aluminium (none), malt (none), moulding clay, cement, coke, cutlery, steel axles, nails, screws, steel rails, surgical instruments, woollen blankets, printing machinery, linoleum, writing paper, printing paper, Bristol board, note paper, clay tubes and pipes,

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*British Trade Abroad.*

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boots and shoes, buttons, toys, hats and caps, boats and vessels, soap, rice (transit), alcoholic beverages, beer, tea, tinned fish, &c.

"In some cases, of course, the shrinkage is the consequence of competition by native protected manufacturers and is inevitable. A great deal of the advantage of protective duties has, however, been neutralised by the rise of 50 per cent. in exchange.\*"

H.M. Consul adds that the population of the State of São Paulo is reckoned to be about 3,000,000. Imports at the port of Santos represented in 1904 17·2 per cent. of the total for all Brazil, whilst exports represented 33 per cent. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,521.)

\**Note.*—This has now been partly counterbalanced by an increase of the percentage of duty payable in gold—see p. 122.

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#### COTTON INDUSTRY OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS.

The following particulars of the cotton industry of the Leeward Islands are extracted from the report recently issued by the Colonial Office:—

This industry has made considerable progress in many of the islands. In 1903-4 cotton was grown in a tentative manner over a considerable area, while in St. Kitts and Montserrat the cultivation was carried on on a somewhat large scale. The results were somewhat variable, but were such as to lead to a considerable extension of the industry, so that in the latter part of 1904 it was estimated that the following acreage was under cultivation in Sea Island cotton:—Antigua and Barbuda, 500 acres; St. Kitts, 1,000 acres; Nevis, 1,050 acres; Anguilla, 300 acres; Montserrat, 500 acres. Future developments will largely depend upon the prices realised.

In Antigua there is a ginnery with three gins, the necessary baling presses, and a disintegrator for crushing the cotton seed. The motive-power is a 9 h.p. oil engine. This has been largely provided by the British Cotton Growing Association, and has been run by the Imperial Department of Agriculture. In St. Kitts there are three ginneries, two of which are due to private enterprise; the third has been furnished by the British Cotton Growing Association. In Nevis there is one ginnery, having three gins, driven by an oil engine, and a small ginnery worked by horse power. The former is partly assisted by the British Cotton Growing Association. In Montserrat there are three ginneries, two due to private enterprise,

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*Cotton Industry of the Leeward Islands.*

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and one assisted by the British Cotton Growing Association. In Anguilla there is a ginnery with two gins, driven by an oil engine; this is provided by the British Cotton Growing Association under agreement with a private individual. In Tortola there is a gin driven by an aermotor; these were placed in the hands of the Imperial Department of Agriculture by the British Cotton Growing Association.

The Imperial Department of Agriculture has been at great pains to afford assistance in every branch of the industry, promising seeds, assisting to combat pests and diseases, affording information and advice at every stage. This, coupled with the enterprise of cotton growers, has enabled a real and business-like attempt to be made to produce cotton of the first quality.

In the Virgin Islands the cotton industry has chiefly been taken up in Virgin Gorda and Anegada. In Antigua, the cultivation of cotton is being steadily increased. The export of raw cotton in 1903 was 4 bales and 7 bags, valued at 28*l.*; in 1904, 155 bales of the value of 1,358*l.* were exported; while up to the 30th September, 1905, 277 bales have been exported, valued at 2,770*l.* There are some 5,000 acres of land admirably adapted for the cultivation of cotton which are obtainable on easy terms.

During 1904 cotton loans to the amount of 740*l.* (St. Kitts, 260*l.*; Nevis, 380*l.*; Anguilla, 100*l.*) were advanced from the sum of 5,000*l.* placed at the disposal of the Colony by the Imperial Government and the British Cotton Growing Association, the advances being regulated by the Leeward Islands Cotton Industry Aid Act. The opening of the old main road near the sea from Charlestown to Whitehall in Nevis is having the effect of bringing many acres of excellent land into cotton cultivation.

The new industry is also in a flourishing condition in Anguilla. 55,625 lbs. of Sea Island Cotton were shipped from the Presidency to the United Kingdom and realised an average price of 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.

In Montserrat during the past year the cultivation of cotton was considerably extended, but, in consequence of severe drought and the appearance of the black boll disease, the value of lint was only 1,380*l.* as against 1,486*l.* in 1903.

In spite of discouragements inevitable at the introduction of a new industry cotton seems to have taken a permanent place in the chief exports of the Island. (*Colonial Office, Annual Series*, 478.)

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## FOREIGN TRADE OF ARGENTINA.

According to official statistics of the foreign trade of Argentina for the first six months of 1905, the imports during that period amounted in value to 97,574,975 dols. as compared with 91,668,807 dols. and 61,902,153 dols. respectively during the corresponding periods of 1904 and 1903 respectively. The total exports amounted to 175,773,681 dols. as against 144,359,138 dols. and 128,820,138 dols. respectively.

**Imports.**

The following table shows the countries participating in the import trade and the values of their respective shares:—

	First Six Months.	
	1904.	1905.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom ... ..	32,149,850	31,525,800
Germany ... ..	12,260,026	14,266,685
United States of America ... ..	11,152,085	13,704,552
Italy ... ..	10,396,647	10,887,153
France ... ..	8,479,781	10,227,525
Belgium ... ..	4,365,989	4,265,939
Spain ... ..	2,367,753	2,703,824
Brazil ... ..	3,215,795	2,494,126
Other countries ... ..	7,280,881	7,499,371
Total, imports ... .. Dols.	91,668,807	97,574,975

**Exports.**

The values of the exports to the various countries were as follows:—

	First Six Months.	
	1904.	1905.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom ... ..	18,060,341	22,911,007
France ... ..	19,668,699	21,578,451
Germany ... ..	17,632,407	21,267,209
Belgium ... ..	10,450,638	12,639,048
United States of America ... ..	5,134,711	7,207,716
Brazil ... ..	4,964,818	6,241,507
Uruguay ... ..	1,996,979	4,373,909
Italy ... ..	1,428,769	3,078,410
Africa ... ..	2,908,075	3,075,008
Netherlands ... ..	1,549,826	1,962,579
Spain ... ..	882,320	1,294,325
Other countries ... ..	6,535,832	10,310,569
Uncertain destination ... ..	53,145,723	59,833,943
Total, exports ... .. Dols.	144,359,138	175,773,681

NOTE.—Dollar = 4s.

## COMMERCIAL CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND BULGARIA.

A "Convention of Commerce, Customs Duties and Navigation" between the United Kingdom and Bulgaria was signed at Sofia on the 9th of December last.

The Convention comprises 21 Articles, of which the first three relate to the treatment to be accorded to the subjects of the two contracting parties. Article 1 provides for complete national treatment in respect of the carrying on of commerce and navigation; Article 2 for exemption from military service or obligatory official functions; and Article 3 for the right of carrying on commerce and industry and of acquiring and possessing property. Articles 4 to 6 deal with the treatment to be accorded to merchandise. Article 4 provides for the mutual accord of most-favoured-nation treatment in respect of import or export duties, and prohibitions of importation or exportation, as well as for the enjoyment of national privileges in respect of warehousing, drawbacks, transit, and generally in all that relates to the exercise of commerce or industry. Article 5 provides that merchandise of British origin shall pay on entry into Bulgaria the duties specified in the Tariff annexed to the Convention (a translation of which was published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 21st of December, pp. 544-546); and Article 6 provides for the accord of most-favoured-nation treatment in respect of internal duties and for freedom of goods in transit. Article 7 provides for full most-favoured-nation treatment in regard to commercial travellers and their samples, and recognises the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom as competent authorities for the granting of the legitimization certificates with which British commercial travellers require to be furnished.

Articles 7 to 13 deal with navigation, in respect of which national treatment is accorded except in regard to coasting trade.

Article 14 relates to the treatment to be accorded to vessels wrecked, and to goods salvaged therefrom.

Article 15 accords mutual national treatment in respect of trade marks.

Article 16 accords most-favoured-nation treatment to produce of fisheries, and Article 17 contains provisions excepting local frontier traffic and obligations imposed by Custom Unions from the operation of the Convention. Article 18 provides for the settlement of tariff disputes by arbitration, while Article 20 deals with the adhesion of British Colonies to the Convention, and provides that any such Colony may adhere within a year from the exchange of ratifications and may subsequently withdraw on giving 12 months' notice. It also provides that goods produced or manufactured in any part of the British Empire, whether adhering to the Convention or not, shall receive full most-favoured-nation treatment in Bulgaria on condition of treating Bulgarian products as favourably as those of any other foreign country.

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*Commercial Convention between the United Kingdom and Bulgaria.*

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The Treaty came into force on the 14th January. It will remain in operation for five years, and thereafter from year to year unless twelve months' notice of denunciation shall have been given by either side. As above stated, the schedule of reductions from the general rates of the Bulgarian tariff in favour of British goods which is annexed to the Convention, was published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 21st December, but it may be of interest to mention here that those reductions affect the most important classes of British goods exported to Bulgaria—*e.g.*, cotton yarns, cotton tissues, certain jute tissues and carpets, jute bags and sacks, various woollen and woollen mixed goods, tin plate, iron bedsteads, sewing and other machines, &c.

Appended to the Convention are schedules of the excise and octroi duties which may be levied in Bulgaria on various classes of goods in addition to import duties, a schedule of accessory dues to be levied in Bulgaria (for sealing goods, supplying copies of printed papers and receipts, warehousing dues, and statistical dues), and a schedule of dues to be levied on mercantile shipping calling at Bulgarian ports. The form of certificate with which British commercial travellers in Bulgaria require to be furnished is also specified in the Convention.

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#### FORTHCOMING APPLICATION OF NEW GERMAN TARIFF.

Adverting to the notice which appeared at p. 441 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 7th December, on the subject of the application of the new German Customs Tariff on and after the 1st March next to goods stored in certain warehouses, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that all goods *presented for clearance* on the usual Declaration Form at the Custom-house of entry, or on the special form known as "Begleitschein II." in use for goods paying duties at a Custom-house other than that of entry, before midnight on the 28th February, will be dutiable under the present Customs Tariff, whether they are actually examined on that date or not. As regards goods which are to be examined at Custom-houses in the interior of Germany, it is suggested that it would be advisable to have such goods cleared at the frontier Custom-house in order to avoid the application of the enhanced rates of the new tariff, should there be any doubt as to the goods reaching the Custom-house in the interior in time to be presented for clearance on or before the 28th February.

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## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a Supplement (No. 52) to the Customs Tariff Guide, issued by the Commonwealth Department of Trade and Customs on 22nd November last, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
*Bags—	
Paper, with trader's name or other advertising matter printed thereon—	
As paper, advertising matter ... ..	3 <i>d.</i> per lb.
Paper, with advertising matter printed outside, and paper such as those stamped with a trader's name ( <i>e.g.</i> Robinson)—	
As paper, advertising matter ... ..	"
Paper, seed, in form of envelopes with flaps, as used by seedsmen, with name of trader, &c., thereon—	
As paper, advertising matter, or manufactured stationery ... ..	3 <i>d.</i> per lb. or 25 % <i>ad val.</i> , whichever higher.
Paper, seed, small paper bags in form of envelopes with flaps, as used by seedsmen, with name of firm, &c., thereon—	
As paper advertising matter, on manufactured stationery ... ..	"
*Boxes, when printed or lithographed with name of specific article for which only the box is suitable ( <i>e.g.</i> cigarettes), or when printed or lithographed with name and address of merchant, and not having reference to any specific article, but suitable for use for various contents—	
As paper advertising matter, or manufactured stationery [ <i>Note.</i> —The addition of the name and address of merchant does not alter this classification.]	3 <i>d.</i> per lb. or 25 % <i>ad val.</i> , whichever higher.
Bowls, lead, used in assaying—	
As manufactures of metals, <i>n.e.i.</i> ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
*Cards, with pictures and photos on, single and in sheets, or intended for or capable of use as post-cards—	
As manufactured stationery ... ..	25 % "
*Cards, with pictures, without printing on the back, to be finished off as post-cards—	
As manufactured stationery ... ..	25 % "
Caustic soda—	
*Put in tins for household use—	
As oilmen's stores, <i>n.e.i.</i> ... ..	15 % "
In bulk—	
As soda caustic ... ..	Free.
Colours—	
Dry pigment, such as Prussian blue, chrome yellow, Brunswick green, lake colours, lime green, &c.—	
As paints, dry colours, &c. ... ..	1 <i>s.</i> per cw <sup>t</sup> .
Pulp pigment, such as chrome yellow, Prussian blue, &c.—	
As paints, ground in liquid ... ..	2 <i>s.</i> "

\* Revised decision.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH**—*continued.*

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
*Fur cutting machines—	
As machinery ... ..	Free.
Iron, cast, channel—	
As manufactures of metals, n.e.i. ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Manganese steel bars—	
As iron and steel, bar rod, &c. ... ..	Free.
Nets, landing—	
As nets, fishing and netting therefor ... ..	"
Perforating machine, for cancelling and perforating stamps—	
As machinery, n.e.i. ... ..	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>
Photographs intended for or capable of use as parts of post-cards—	
As manufactured stationery... ..	25 % "
Tips (metal) for hat ornaments—	
As trimmings ... ..	15 % "

\* Revised decisions.

**CEYLON.**

A copy of the "Ceylon Government Gazette" for 22nd December, 1905, has been received, which contains a Customs Notice issued by the Ceylon Colonial Secretary, notifying that, from and after 1st December, 1905, "raw rubber" will be exempted from the payment of Customs duty upon importation into Ceylon.

**NATAL**

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Natal Government Gazette" for 5th December last, containing regulations under Government Notices Nos. 813-5 of 1905, which have been issued in accordance with the provisions of the Natal Excise Acts of 1901 and 1905. The regulations under Government Notices 814-5 amend the regulations previously in force under Government Notices Nos. 493 of 1903 and 366 of 1904 respectively, and lay down the regulations to be observed respecting:

1. Methylated spirits made in, imported into, and stored in the Colony, and
2. The sale of methylated spirits by retail.

The Government Notice No. 813 of 1905, lays down the regulations for distilling and rectifying spirits on the same premises, or for rectifying spirits under bond.

These Notices, which are in some detail, may be seen by persons interested at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**SOUTH AFRICA—BAROTZILAND.**

A copy of the "Official Gazette of the High Commissioner for South Africa," dated 15th December, 1905, has been received containing a Government Notice (No. 123 of 1905) notifying that, under section 13 of the Customs Proclamation (Barotziland), 1905, a rebate of the whole of the Customs duty payable on the undermentioned articles will be allowed from the above date upon importation or removal from a bonded warehouse in Barotziland:—

1. Methylated spirits; or
2. Alcohol imported solely for manufacturing or scientific purposes within Barotziland; and
3. Goods intended for consumption in places outside the Customs Union; subject to the provisions of the Regulations which may be in force with respect to such goods.

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**BRITISH EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.**

A copy of the "Official Gazette of the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates" for 1st December, 1905, has been received, which contains the "Transit and Re-export Ordinance, 1905" (No. 12 of 1905), relating to the re-exportation of goods, by rail, through the British East Africa Protectorate.

This Ordinance, which will come into force on 1st April next, provides that:—

1. All goods or merchandise of whatever description imported by sea for conveyance by the Uganda Railway, and declared for transit through the Protectorate, shall pass through the Customs at Kilindini, and

2. Should any goods or merchandise be landed at the Port of Mombasa they shall be treated as goods liable to the payment of the full Customs duty, and no part of such duty shall be refunded to the transit agent or any other person, notwithstanding any provisions in the principal regulations to the contrary.

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**EGYPT.**

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 30th December, 1905, contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on various kinds of sugar. This Tariff was to come into operation on the 29th December, and will remain in operation until the 28th March next, or until denunciation:—

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

EGYPT—continued.

Kinds of Sugar.	Valuation per 100 kilogs.*
Crystallised or moist, of any origin, in single or double bags (gross weight) ... ..	Millièmes.†
... ..	1,040
Powdered or centrifugal, of any origin... ..	1,040
Crushed, of any origin ... ..	1,100
Cubes, of any origin, in boxes (net weight) ... ..	1,160
Loaves " " " ... ..	1,280

\* Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.

† 1,000 millièmes = £ E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

The "Journal Officiel" of 6th January, contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing duties on imported iron and steel manufactures. This Tariff was to come into force on the 1st January, 1906, and will remain in force until the 31st March, 1906, or until denunciation:—

Articles.	Valuation per kilog.*	
	Former.	New.
Iron and steel plates, ordinary, without mark, † $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch thick and upwards—	Millièmes.†	Millièmes.†
British; and similar goods from all other countries	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Belgian or German; and similar goods from all other countries ... ..	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6
Iron and steel bars and angles, T and U, without mark†—		
British; and similar goods from all other countries	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6
Belgian or German; and similar goods from all other countries ... ..	5 $\frac{2}{10}$	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Iron bars, Swedish ... ..	10	10
Iron, pig ... ..	3 $\frac{2}{10}$	3 $\frac{6}{10}$
Iron hoops ... ..	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{7}{10}$
„ hoops, with holes ... ..	6 $\frac{8}{10}$	7
Steel hoops ... ..	6 $\frac{7}{10}$	6 $\frac{9}{10}$
„ hoops, with holes ... ..	7	7 $\frac{1}{10}$
Galvanised sheets (B. G. 18 to 26) ... ..	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ corrugated sheets (B. G. 18 to 26) ... ..	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ordinary cast-iron pipes and fittings ... ..	<i>ad valorem</i>	<i>ad valorem</i>
Studs (Benwill's), new ... ..	25	25
„ old ... ..	20	20
„ small ... ..	24	24
Nails (French), from France, Belgium, Germany, and America (15 by 35 to 24 by 200) ... ..	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	9
Iron and steel girders—		
British; and similar goods from all other countries	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Belgian or German; and similar goods from all other countries ... ..	4 $\frac{1}{10}$	5

\* Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent. The English ton is taken as equivalent to 1,016 kilogs.

† 1,000 millièmes = £E1 = £1 0s. 6d.

† The duties on iron and steel wares bearing special marks are leviable *ad valorem*.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### **EGYPT**—*continued.*

Iron tubes for gas, water, and steam, and fittings therefor, and iron tubes for boilers are assessed at various rates in accordance with certain trade lists from which discounts are allowed. Particulars with regard to these lists and discounts may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 1st January contains two Valuation Tariffs for the purpose of assessing export duties on various articles of Egyptian produce. One of these, in force for the current month only, contains valuations for cotton, sugar, rice, and other cereals and vegetables. The second, in force from the 1st January to the 31st March, 1906, contains valuations for a number of miscellaneous articles such as sesame, flax, tow, wool, ivory, wax, hides and skins of various sorts, horns and hoofs, cotton seed oil, &c.

These Tariffs may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### **SPAIN.**

With reference to previous notices in the "Journal" on the subject of the prolongation by the Spanish Government of the Customs régime established by the Swiss-Spanish Commercial Treaty of 1892, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, information to the effect that a Law has been passed by the Cortes empowering the Government to continue to apply the duties inscribed in Schedule B of that Treaty to the products of countries which accord most-favoured-nation treatment to Spain, until the revised Customs Tariff now in course of preparation comes into force.

The United Kingdom, among other countries, will therefore continue to enjoy the benefit of the Tariff reductions contained in the Swiss-Spanish Treaty *until further notice*, and not merely until the 1st March next, as stated in previous notices.

### **SPAIN—ITALY.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 408 of the "Journal" for the 30th November last relating to the conclusion of a provisional Commercial Agreement between Spain and Italy, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Spanish Royal Decree directing that the duties of the higher or "general" Spanish

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

Tariff should be applied to Italian produce imported into Spain on and after 20th December, 1905. This Decree was issued in view of the refusal of the Italian Chamber of Deputies to ratify the above-mentioned Agreement, and the consequent application of the Italian "general" tariff to Spanish produce from 18th December.

Spanish Customs officers have received orders to exercise every care in ascertaining the country of origin of merchandise, and particularly of those classes of merchandise which are exempt from the requirement to be accompanied by formal certificates of origin.

### BRAZIL.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 400 of the "Journal" for the 30th November relating to the proposed increase of the proportion of the Brazilian import duties payable in gold, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the proposal has been sanctioned by the Brazilian Chambers and incorporated in the Budget Law for 1906. The proportion of import duty payable in gold has been increased from 25 to 50 per cent. in the case of articles mentioned in the following statement, so long as exchange remains above 15*d.* The Board understand from the "Brazilian Review" that only 35 per cent. of the duties are to be paid in gold in the case of all other articles; and that the same rate will apply to all articles, whether mentioned in the following list or not, if and when exchange falls to 15*d.* or less. These provisions were to come into force on 1st January.

*Budget Law for 1906. Increase of Proportion of Import Duty Payable in Gold.*

*Articles the import duties on which are payable 50 per cent. in paper and 50 per cent. in gold so long as exchange remains above 15*d.**

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff No.	Articles.
1	Animals.	102	Vegetables and farinaceous products not specially mentioned.
9	Hats of the fur of the hare, otter, beaver or of horsehair.	104	Garlic.
11	Twine and rope of all kinds in the piece or in made-up articles, <i>except haircloth.</i>	106	Potatoes and the like.
23	Hides and skins, raw, of all kinds.	109	Onions.
30	Boots and shoes.	115	Tobacco, manufactured or not.
41	Trunks of any shape.	124	Fermented beverages.
52	Lard, rendered or prepared.	137	Syrups, not medicinal, of all kinds.
60	Butter and margarine.	159	Ochres.
63	Cheese of all kinds.	172	Sienna earth, calcined or in powder.
69	Bacon, salted or in brine.	178	Acids.
91	Fruits and nuts, preserved.	Ex 179	Mineral waters, <i>artificial.</i>
93	Rice, husked or not.	196	Balsams, prepared, of all kinds.
98	Beans of all kinds.	204	Medicinal pills, lozenges, &c.
99	Maccaroni, &c., and biscuits.	227	Elixirs, liqueurs, and medicinal solutions of all kinds.
100	Maize.	228	Emulsions of all kinds.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRAZIL**---continued.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff No.	Articles.
259	Lysol, creoline, creosol, and the like.	Ex 538	Jute picce goods.
279	Pastilles and pastes, medicinal.	547	Linen, hemp, jute : cordage.
280	Pastilles, compressed or dissolved, tabloids of all kinds.	562	Do. do. clothing made up.
326	Medicinal syrups of all kinds.	563	Do. do. bags.
330	Wood, rough, sawn, wrought, in veneers or other forms.	613	Cardboard.
437	Cotton yarns.	620	Earthenware.
465	Cotton stockings and socks.	625	Cement.
468	Lace of cotton or of cotton mixed with wool or linen.	641	Talc.
469	Cotton wearing apparel, made-up.	642	Earths.
470	Cotton bags, common.	703	Cast-iron, in ingots, pigs, or puddled, crude.
472	Cotton tissues, plain and twilled.	732	Iron and steel : horseshoe nails.
473	" " figured, damasked, &c.	749	" screws.
517	Woollen cloths, cassimeres and cassinettes, mixed or not with silk, chevots, American flannels, serges and diagonals.	751	" nails, tacks, pegs, rivets, &c.
534	Bagging, sackcloth, &c., of tow.	Ex 755	" dog spikes and large nails for rails.
		757	" manufactures not specially mentioned.
		805	Wagons, carriages, &c., for railways.
		1060	Matches.

In addition to the articles enumerated in the foregoing statement, 50 per cent. of the import duty is levied in gold in the case of some of the articles included under the following tariff groups :—

(24) Hides and skins, prepared and tanned ; (53) meat ; (123) vegetable oils ; (213) chlorides, hydrochlorates, and muriates ; (410) straw, esparto, coir and other vegetable fibres, raw or prepared ; (474) various cotton tissues ; (488) woollen alpacas, muslins, &c. ; (612) paper.

A detailed list of the articles affected will be published in the "Board of Trade Journal" as soon as complete information is received.

The following articles, among others, are exempted from this increase :—Hams, sausages, and stationery.

The Budget Law also authorises the Brazilian Government to reduce the duty on imported sugar, except in the case of countries which grant bounties on the production or exportation of sugar.

**Sugar Duties.****COLOMBIA.**

On p. 126 will be found particulars of a recently issued Decree providing for a tax on mines in Colombia, and for an export duty at the rate of one per cent. of the declared insurance value on gold, platinum and silver.

**Export Duty on Gold, Platinum and Silver.**

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### RUSSIA.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg, reporting that by an Imperial Decree, dated the 28th December, the Siberian Railway Committee is abolished, in view of the provisions of the Manifesto of 30th October last. Business which has been administered by this Committee will in the future be carried out by the Departments concerned in the ordinary way.

### SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 10th January contains a Royal Order habilitating the port of Huelva for the import and export of alcohol, and for the export of pulped grapes ("mistelas").

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn) has forwarded a schedule of the changes in railway rates for certain produce and merchandise between Chicago and New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston, which came into effect on 1st January, 1906. This may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### ARGENTINA.

The attention of H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.) has recently been drawn to the fact that British vessels arriving at that port from ports at which there are no Argentine Consuls have been obliged to pay double fees on presenting their manifests at the Custom House, on the ground that their papers were not in order.

On going into the matter Mr. Ross finds that by Article 14 of Law No. 4,280 of 4th January, 1904, "all vessels proceeding from ports at which there is no Argentine Consul should obtain a manifest from the Custom House showing at least the number of packages included in the cargo, and if the vessel touch at an intermediate port where there is an Argentine Consul the Master should get his papers duly put in order and legalised even if not loading or unloading at that port."

The visa of the Customs Authorities at the port of departure is indispensable, as without it the Argentine Consular officials refuse to legalise manifests. The above applies especially to jute or hessian laden vessels from Indian ports.

## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### SOUTH AFRICA.

The "South African Trade Journal" (Cape Town) remarks on the considerable attention which has been devoted of late to the possibilities of oil discoveries in South Africa. At Inhambane in Natal, drilling has been going on for some months, with results which, though promising, are indefinite. In the Riversdale district, Cape Colony, a company has been investigating petroleum shales with a view to their commercial development. In the northern part of the Karoo, that is in the Carnarvon and Kenhardt districts of the Cape Colony, investigations have been made by Mr. E. P. Rathbone, who reports that it is his strong conviction "that primary oil deposits lying in well defined and comparatively narrow oil belts or zones will be found existing under the farms reported on, probably extending for a greater distance as to their continuous length than has yet been discovered in any other oil district of the world. . . . The main oil belt should be tapped by boreholes at depths ranging from 1,000 to 2,000 ft., should the formation lying beneath the River Dwyka prove non-existent or thin. Otherwise proportionately deeper holes may be necessary. Possibly boreholes would have to be sunk to 3,000 or 4,000 ft."

### FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

The following statement, showing the weight of tin and tin ore (tin exported in the form of ore having been taken at 70 per cent.\* of the gross weight of the ore) exported from the Federated Malay States during the nine months ended September, 1905, with figures for the corresponding period of the preceding year, is taken from the "Selangor Government Gazette":—

State.	January to September, 1904.			January to September, 1905.		
	Tin.	Tin exported in the form of Ore.	Total.	Tin.	Tin exported in the form of Ore.	Total.
Perak ...	Pikuls. 109,599	Pikuls. 224,387	Pikuls. 333,987	Pikuls. 105,979	Pikuls. 225,648	Pikuls. 331,627
Selangor ...	88,413	134,069	222,482	86,164	130,371	216,535
Negri Sembilan	36,141	26,072	62,212	35,911	26,886	62,797
Pahang ...	4,182	15,806	19,988	4,754	20,461	25,215
Total ...	238,335	400,334	638,669	232,808	403,366	636,174

NOTE.—1 picul = 133½ lbs.

\* The following note appears in the "Gazette," viz.:—"The figures for 1904 will not agree with those previously published. To obtain a true comparison it has been necessary to reduce the tin ore to 70 per cent. instead of 68 per cent. of the gross weight."

### *Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

#### ROUMANIA.

The "Moniteur des Interêts Matériels" of 22nd December, states that a project of law has been laid before the Roumanian Senate authorising the Government to grant, for a maximum term of 50 years, the right to work petroliferous districts in State lands; no concessions will be granted for more than 100 hectares of territory known to contain petroleum, or more than 1,000 hectares of territory where its existence is uncertain. These concessions will be awarded by the Council of Ministers; if several persons apply for the same lot, an adjudication will take place. The same concessionnaire may obtain three lots of the extent specified above, provided a sum is deposited sufficient to cover the preliminary expenses of prospecting and working, the capital necessary for each lot being not less than 2,000,000 frs. (about 80,000*l.*). No grouping or cession of more than three lots will be allowed. The Council of Ministers may sub-divide the lots into smaller areas than those specified above: in this event, the guarantee is reduced to 500,000 frs. for each lot.

The State reserves the exclusive right of working all means of transporting petroleum; a concessionnaire will, however, be entitled to lay pipes between his concession and the nearest railway station.

The State will claim 10 per cent. of the raw production when the average daily yield amounts to two truckloads, 12 per cent. on a yield of from two to four truckloads, and 14 per cent. on larger yields. Moreover, the State will participate in the net profits to the extent of one-third when these range between 10 and 30 per cent., and of one-half when over 30 per cent. An annual tax of 20 frs. per hectare will also be levied on all concessions, in addition to the usual State taxes levied on petroleum workings throughout the country.

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#### COLOMBIA.

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Bogotá reports that a recently issued decree (No. 1,112 of 19th September, 1905), establishing taxes on gold, silver, and platinum mines, and an export tax on those metals, has been revoked and substituted by Decree No. 1,328 of the 16th November, published in the "Official Gazette."

This decree establishes a tax of one dollar (4*s.*) for the denouncing of each mine; four dollars (16*s.*) for the title deeds of concession; in the case of vein mines, an annual tax of two dollars (8*s.*)

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

for each claim or part of a claim ("pertenencia"), the extent of a claim being fixed by law; each alluvial or sediment gold mine, of a size fixed by law, pays an annual tax of five dollars (20s.). No concession for mining in the beds of navigable rivers will be granted, except in the case of special contracts made with the Executive, this without prejudice to rights already acquired and to works carried on on the banks of rivers for the extraction of gold as a popular industry.

An export tax will be charged on gold, platinum and silver at the rate of 1 per cent. of the declared insurance value. The valuations may also be based on the certificate of assay, or on the market value of the metal.

The above-mentioned decree took effect from the 1st December, 1905.

**YARNS AND TEXTILES.**

**INDIA.**

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each province in British India, and in the Native States, during September of each of the years 1903, 1904, and 1905, and in the six months, April to September, 1903, 1904, and 1905.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above returns, giving particulars for the six months ended September, 1903, 1904, and 1905:—

	Six Months ended September.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.
BRITISH INDIA, BEJAR, AND NATIVE STATES.			
Cotton yarn spun ... .. Lbs.	304,830,207	280,220,311	350,000,854
Cotton woven goods produced:—			
Grey goods ... .. { = Yards	55,877,772	61,128,613	68,620,700
Figured and coloured goods Lbs.	228,995,368	259,286,288	288,024,405
Hosiery ... .. "	11,792,188	11,903,839	14,602,110
Miscellaneous goods ... .. "	345,124	343,450	293,210
	765,256	1,092,621	809,820

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 13th January, 1906, were as follows:—

**Corn Prices.**

Wheat	...	...	...	...	28s.	6d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	24s.	8d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	18s.	4d.

For further particulars see p. 135.

A statement is published on p. 136, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 13th January, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

**Imports of Agricultural Produce.**

### BRITISH INDIA.

Reference is made in the Annual Report for the year ending March, 1905, on the Experimental Farms in the Bombay Presidency, to the operations carried out in Sind in respect to the cultivation of the Egyptian and American varieties of cotton. At Dhoranaro, a small experiment was initiated under what appeared normal conditions, with the one exception that the land was perhaps a little better than the average. No manure was used, and the Egyptian methods of sowing and cultivation were followed. Compared with indigenous Sind cotton, the best Egyptian kind proved more profitable to the cultivator by about 250 per cent. It is probable that one of the Egyptian varieties will be found most suitable for the perennial irrigated tracts, while possibly one of the American varieties may succeed on some at least of the inundation canals. In the case of the American cotton only very small areas were cultivated, too small to admit of the yield being estimated.

A further experiment is being undertaken on the Mirpurkha farm, and cultivators in other parts of Sind have been supplied with Egyptian cotton seed. In all about 1,500 acres have been sown with that variety during the current seasons, and if the harvest bears any proportion to the results quoted, an important development in this direction may be expected.

With regard to the Bengal Presidency, although cotton as a commercial crop is at present of very small importance there, it is satisfactory to learn, on official authority, says "Capital" (Calcutta) that steps are being taken to improve the outturn and quality of the local varieties in the more important cotton growing districts in

**Cotton in Bengal.**

### *Agriculture.*

the Province. One direction in which this is being done is by the distribution of selected seed free to picked cultivators on their agreeing to simply return the same quantity of seed *plus* 25 per cent. when the next crop is harvested. As to the amount of seed distribution, 2,380 lbs. were given away in 1904 and 2,234 lbs. during 1905. The varieties distributed were Egyptian, American, Australian (Caravonica) and Indian, the last including cotton-seed from Bombay and the Central Provinces and Bengal tree cottons.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The "Journal of Commerce" (Melbourne) publishes the following estimate of the Australian wheat harvest of 1905-6:—

#### Estimated Wheat Harvest for 1905-6.

—	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Victoria ... ..	28,525,579	21,092,139	21,543,150*
New South Wales ... ..	27,334,141	16,464,414	17,500,000
Queensland ... ..	2,436,799	2,149,663	1,300,000
South Australia ... ..	13,209,465	12,033,172	14,850,000
Western Australia ... ..	1,876,252	2,005,146	2,095,426*
Tasmania ... ..	767,398	792,956	750,000
Total ... ..	74,149,634	54,537,491	58,038,576

\* Official estimate.

Allowing 24,000,000 bushels for the needs of the Commonwealth population, at the rate of 6 bushels per head, and 4,000,000 bushels for seed purposes, there will, says the "Journal," be a surplus of over 30,000,000 bushels available for export.

### RUSSIA.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg, reporting that according to notices which have recently appeared in the "Official Messenger," the estimated production of sugar in Russia for the season 1905-6 is 70,000,000 pouds (2,527,000,000 lbs.).

The amount which was allowed on the market on payment of the ordinary excise of 1 rouble 75 copecks per poud (1·22*d.* per lb.), was originally 50,000,000 pouds (1,805,000,000 lbs.). The maximum price was fixed at 4 roubles 15 copecks per poud (2·91*d.* per lb.), and, as this price was exceeded, a further issue of sugar from the factory reserves was authorised, to the amount of 4,000,000

*Agriculture.*

pounds (144,000,000 lbs.), making a total amount allowed for consumption of 54,000,000 pounds (1,950,000,000 lbs.).

The balance of 16,000,000 pounds (577,000,000 lbs.) is divided between the "inviolable" and "free" reserves, which can only be put on the market on payment of a double excise of 2·44*d.* per lb.

The quantity fixed for home consumption in 1895-6 was 25,500,000 pounds, so that in the last ten years home consumption has doubled, while the maximum price has fallen from 5 roubles to 4 roubles 15 copecks per pound (3·51*d.* to 2·91*d.* per lb.).

The excise duty has remained the same, namely 1·75 roubles per pound (1·22*d.* per lb.).

**MISCELLANEOUS.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scottish, and Irish Coasts during the month and twelve months ended 31st December, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1904 :—

—	Month of December.				Twelve Months ended 31st December.			
	1905.		1904.		1905.		1904.	
	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.	Quan- tity.	Value.
<b>England and Wales—</b>	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Fish, excluding shell								
fish ... ..	812,727	580,779	887,549	521,726	11,369,382	7,170,663	10,975,427	6,097,520
Shell fish ... ..	—	25,445	—	22,039	—	305,033	—	299,029
Total Value ...	—	606,224	—	543,765	—	7,475,696	—	6,396,549
<b>Scotland—</b>								
Fish, excluding shell								
fish ... ..	204,249	119,963	306,340	108,455	7,857,112	2,649,148	7,946,598	2,230,464
Shell fish ... ..	—	4,996	—	4,311	—	70,656	—	76,502
Total Value ...	—	124,959	—	112,766	—	2,719,804	—	2,306,966
<b>Ireland—</b>								
Fish, excluding shell								
fish ... ..	43,269	18,766	64,282	21,037	851,374	313,913	925,257	311,675
Shell fish ... ..	—	938	—	629	—	14,494	—	11,959
Total Value ...	—	19,704	—	21,666	—	328,407	—	323,634

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the annual returns.

*Miscellaneous.***UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

According to a report published in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"\* of the 16th January, based on  
**State of the** 7,787 returns, viz., 3,752 from employers or  
**Labour Market in** their associations, 3,516 from trade unions, 444  
**December, 1905.** from local correspondents, and 75 from other  
 sources, employment in December showed very little change as compared with the previous month. As compared with a year ago, employment in nearly all the principal trades showed a considerable improvement. The building trades, however, showed no change.

In the 270 Trade Unions, with a total membership of 581,630, making returns, 28,734 (or 4·9 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 4·7 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 7·6 per cent. at the end of December, 1904. The slight increase in the percentage unemployed at the end of December, as compared with November, is largely due to the Christmas holidays.

\* See p. 139 for list of principal contents of the "Gazette."

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 11th January, 1906,  
**Cotton Statistics.** was 167,389 (including 83 bales British West Indian and 7 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 2 weeks ended the 11th January was 318,580 (including 90 bales British West Indian and 21 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 11th January, 1906, 6,162 bales, and for the 2 weeks, 14,916.

For further details see p. 135.

A statement showing the number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month and  
**Bankruptcy** twelve months ending 31st December, 1905,  
**Statistics.** will be found on pp. 137-38.

**BELGIUM.**

With reference to the note which appeared on p. 610 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 28th December last, the Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Brussels (Sir E. C. H. Phipps, K.C.M.G., C.B.), reporting that the Belgian Government state that the notification which is shortly to be issued regarding the remission of the tax hitherto levied on British commercial travellers in Belgium will bear a date anterior to the 1st of January, and consequently the amount paid for any licences taken out for the current year will be reimbursed to the persons affected.

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*Miscellaneous.*

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**FRANCE.**

The French "Journal Officiel" of 24th December contains the text of a report by the Minister of Agriculture relative to the appointment of a permanent Commission for the investigation and control of analytical processes employed in the application of the Law of 1st August, 1905, for the prevention of fraud in the sale of goods, and the adulteration of foodstuffs and agricultural produce. (See p. 377 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th August, and p. 183 of the issue of 27th July.)

The "Journal Officiel" may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**FRANCE--ALGERIA.**

According to the "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels), the production of cork in Algeria in 1905 amounted to 94,275 quintals, which sold for 3,111,000 francs (12,440*l.*). These figures show a considerable improvement over those of the preceding year, owing to Government measures for the prevention of forest fires.

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**AUSTRIA--HUNGARY.**

According to official statements, quoted in a recent despatch by H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. B. Spence), the production of beer in Austria from 1st September, 1904, to 31st August, 1905, was 19,098,540 hectolitres, as compared with 19,820,590 hectolitres in the previous year. The duty paid to the Government on the same amounted to 3,042,603*l.*, as compared with 3,153,102*l.* Bohemia is the principal beer-producing district of Austria.

Hectolitre = 22 imp. gallons.

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**COSTA RICA.**

The United States Consul at San José reports that Costa Rica has passed a Law declaring the lands on all islands on the coast or within the gulfs and bays of Costa Rica to be inalienable, and prohibiting the denouncement of veins, beds, and other natural deposits of minerals in those islands. The executive power may, whenever deemed advantageous to national interests, grant special concessions for cultivation, exploitation of forests, veins, beds, and other mineral deposits situated in the islands. The law came into force on 23rd November last.

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*Miscellaneous.*

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**VENEZUELA.**

The Acting British Consul at Caracas (Mr. G. Haggard) has forwarded a copy and translation of a contract, published in the "Official Gazette" of Venezuela, by which permission is granted to General Bello to extract guano, phosphates, &c., in the Island of Orchila for the period of 15 years.

**Concession for the Extraction of Guano, Phosphates, &c.**  
By the terms of this concession the contractor, or his heirs, has the right to import free from all duties, such materials as may be necessary for the construction of buildings, wharves, and other works, as well as the instruments and machinery used in their work; but the vessels which bring these must go to La Guayra and present their papers to the Custom-house, with a view to the examination of their Bills of Lading and the issue to them of the proper permit to land their goods at Orchila, after they shall have complied with the necessary formalities; the said vessels are only to pay those dues which are to be given for an interpreter, and for the sanitary officer, when he makes his visit.

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**ARGENTINA.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.)\* collected during a journey to the northern parts of his consular district, of (1) leather from San Lorenzo, tanned with Seville bark gathered locally; (2) coffee from Los Cafetales, of a kind grown in Bolivia, which is sold among the Bolivians in the north of the Republic; and (3) asphalt from Los Garrapatiales.

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**COLOMBIA.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Bogotá (Mr. S. S. Dickson) has forwarded translation of a resolution passed by the Colombian Executive, under which associations, domiciled in the Republic, for the purpose of engaging in industrial enterprises and of which the members consist of foreigners and Colombians are to be regarded as Colombian societies.

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\* May be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Miscellaneous.***JAPAN.**

Adverting to the notice published on p. 612 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th September last, the **Salt Monopoly.** Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a pamphlet issued by the Revenue Bureau of the Japanese Department of Finance giving the text in English of the Salt Monopoly Law, and of the detailed regulations for its enforcement.

The above may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Japan "Weekly Mail" (Yokohama) reports the formation of a Japanese Beer Trust, the three beer companies—the Nippon, the Sapporo, and the Osaka—having agreed to unite and form one concern. This result is said to have been brought about largely by the advice of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

According to the "Shogyo Shimpo," the manufacture of beer in Japan amounted to 95,243 koku in 1904, being **Beer Trade.** 20,000 koku above the figure for 1903, and 40,000 above that for 1902. This is a marked increase, but it is to be observed that in 1901, before the imposition of a tax, the production reached 120,000 koku. The average for the five years ended 1904 was 105,000 koku approximately, out of which quantity the three companies now combining produced no less than 90,000 koku. They will, consequently, be a very strong union, and the "Shogyo" thinks that the effect of the economies resulting from combination will be felt in the field of export. In 1902 the value of the beer exported from Japan was 520,000 yen; in 1904 it rose to 750,000 yen, and for the first ten months of 1905 the figure was 1,210,000 yen. This last record is abnormal; it may be attributed in large part to the demand created by the war. The "Shogyo" is nevertheless persuaded that inasmuch as the demand for beer is steadily growing in China and Korea, a bright future lies before the Japanese beer companies.

Koku = 39·7 gallons; yen = 2s. 0½d.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

**Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 2 Weeks ended 11th January, 1906 :—**

	Week ended 11th Jan., 1906.	2 Weeks ended 11th Jan., 1906.	Week ended 11th Jan., 1906.	2 Weeks ended 11th Jan., 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	140,427	255,307†	1,858	5,407
Brazilian ... ..	18,622	26,140	300	300
East Indian ... ..	1,791	6,167	1,769	2,560
Egyptian ... ..	6,320	26,983	2,085	6,462
Miscellaneous ... ..	229*	3,983‡	150	187
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>167,389</b>	<b>318,580</b>	<b>6,162</b>	<b>14,916</b>

\* Including 83 bales British West Indian and 7 bales British West African.

† Including corrected figures.

‡ Including 90 bales British West Indian and 21 bales British West African.

### Corn Prices.

**Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 13th January, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.**

						Average Price.					
						Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
						s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 13th January, 1906 ... ..						28	6	24	8	18	4
Corresponding week in—											
1899 ... ..						27	0	27	11	17	1
1900 ... ..						26	0	25	8	16	2
1901 ... ..						26	11	25	9	17	3
1902 ... ..						27	8	26	11	20	0
1903 ... ..						24	11	24	1	16	10
1904 ... ..						26	11	22	3	15	9
1905 ... ..						30	4	24	6	16	3

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

## Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 13th January, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 13th Jan., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	11,927	10,907
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	1,062	8,947
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	96	234
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	145,088	93,268
Mutton ... ..	"	72,769	81,959
Pork ... ..	"	15,364	19,894
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	105,325	130,089
Beef ... ..	"	3,355	3,568
Hams ... ..	"	26,308	25,675
Pork ... ..	"	2,436	4,734
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	12,165	9,618
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	17,867	13,399
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	81,063	98,289
Margarine ... ..	"	21,467	20,877
Cheese ... ..	"	84,670	44,851
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	13	—
" cream ... ..	"	66	64
" condensed ... ..	"	20,005	20,211
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	19	10
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hundr.	307,722	324,245
Poultry ... ..	Value £	22,372	45,343
Game ... ..	"	2,161	1,993
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	3,267	6,485
Lard ... ..	"	73,291	67,903
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,097,200	1,026,000
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	550,400	228,300
Barley ... ..	"	321,700	424,000
Oats ... ..	"	186,100	277,900
Peas ... ..	"	33,370	42,350
Beans ... ..	"	8,990	32,390
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	1,242,100	783,500
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	48,380	105,328
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	39	5
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	83,786	57,939
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	271	223
Lemons ... ..	"	7,491	24,946
Oranges ... ..	"	89,100	131,492
Pears ... ..	"	758	188
Plums ... ..	"	—	—
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	2,371	56
Hay... ..	Tons.	1,724	1,659
Straw ... ..	"	1,761	2,402
Moss Litter ... ..	"	2,194	1,491
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	4,437	1,219
Locust Beans ... ..	"	14,600	19,456
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	86,293	87,812
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	9,780	25,755
Tomatoes ... ..	"	13,803	6,778
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	7,264	7,731
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>			
Preserved by canning... ..	Cwts.	6,166	3,999
	"	3,159	3,330

### Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

**Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted** in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations during the periods indicated.

	December.		Twelve Months ended December.	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
Total gazetted... ..	No. 362	No. 370	No. 4,787	No. 4,540
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations :—				
Grocers, &c.... ..	27	21	317	280
Builders ... ..	26	29	298	313
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c. ... ..	21	22	289	253
Farmers ... ..	19	16	212	184
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c. ... ..	10	9	160	120
Bakers ... ..	10	10	144	142
Butchers ... ..	7	8	140	135
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c. ... ..	9	3	124	89
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ... ..	12	15	122	115
Tailors, &c. ... ..	8	11	104	100
Drapers, haberdashers, &c. ... ..	3	5	100	110
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c. ... ..	12	3	86	60
Agents, commission and general ... ..	5	3	72	50
Coal and coke merchants and dealers ... ..	6	3	68	60
Auctioneers ... ..	2	5	59	50
Travellers, commercial ... ..	1	7	59	41
Confectioners ... ..	5	3	52	39
Carpenters and joiners ... ..	5	3	49	41
Tobacconists, &c. ... ..	5	1	49	41
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ... ..	2	4	47	57
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ... ..	4	5	45	47
Engineers and founders, &c. ... ..	4	3	45	46
Furniture dealers and makers ... ..	6	2	43	52
Clerks, commercial and general ... ..	4	8	42	57
Provision merchants, &c. ... ..	3	2	40	27
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers ... ..	1	2	39	42
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ... ..	2	4	25	50
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ... ..	1	2	35	33

Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	December.		Twelve Months ended December.	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations— <i>continued:</i>	No.	No.	No.	No.
Lodging-house keepers ... ..	5	3	35	26
General dealers ... ..	1	3	34	43
Hairdressers... ..	1	1	34	24
Ironmongers ... ..	4	4	33	34
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors ... ..	4	1	32	22
Cabinet makers and upholsterers ... ..	1	5	31	38
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c. ... ..	2	4	30	28
Directors and promoters of public companies ... ..	1	2	29	31
Clothiers, outfitters, &c. ... ..	3	2	29	31
Carriage, &c., builders ... ..	—	1	27	27
Milliners, dressmakers, &c. ... ..	2	2	27	30
Wheelwrights ... ..	2	2	27	19
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c. ... ..	—	2	26	18
Solicitors ... ..	1	1	26	32
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses ... ..	4	3	26	21
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers ... ..	3	3	25	25
Saddlers and harness makers ... ..	1	3	24	33
Contractors ... ..	3	4	23	28
Printers, booksellers, and publishers ... ..	1	2	22	38
Architects and surveyors ... ..	2	1	22	25
Gardeners, florists, &c. ... ..	1	5	21	34
Officers in Army ... ..	4	4	21	25
Merchants, general ... ..	1	—	20	22
Stationers ... ..	1	1	20	16
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ... ..	—	2	19	20
Timber merchants ... ..	1	1	19	20
Brokers, stock and share ... ..	4	—	18	13
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c. ... ..	4	2	17	32
Hosiery, glovers, &c. ... ..	2	2	16	16
Cattle and pig dealers ... ..	3	3	16	18
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ..	—	1	15	16
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ... ..	1	1	12	10
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ... ..	—	2	10	19
Wine and spirit merchants, &c. ... ..	—	—	9	14
Millers ... ..	—	—	6	20
Fishing smack owners, and masters ... ..	1	—	6	4
Cotton spinners and manufacturers ... ..	—	—	1	5

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 1d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the January issue:—State of the Labour Market in December; Employment in 1905; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1905; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1904; and Wages and Hours of Labour in Hungary.

### OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

*Weights and Measures Report.* 317. Price 2½d.

This is a report by the Board of Trade on their proceedings and business under the Weights and Measures Acts, since the date of the preceding report, namely, 11th August, 1904.

*Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine.* (Great Britain, &c., 299. Price 1d.

This is an annual return issued by the Commercial, Labour and Statistical Department of the Board of Trade, which contains statistics of the sea-borne trade, the shipping revenue and naval expenditure of the United Kingdom, British India, the British Self-governing Colonies and the principal Foreign Countries. The figures given relate as far as possible to the year 1904; in cases where statistics for that year are not available, the figures for the latest year for which particulars have been published are given.

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# Government Publications.

## LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
<b>EUROPE—</b>					
<b>Austria-Hungary :</b>			3389	Pondicherry & Karikal ..	1 <i>d.</i>
3399	Austria-Hungary ... 1904	1½ <i>d.</i>	3498	Réunion ... ..	½ <i>d.</i>
3486	Bohemia ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>	3493	Society Islands ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>
3343	Finances and General Economic Conditions 1900-04	6½ <i>d.</i>	638	<i>Chemical, Metal and other Industries of Lyons</i> ...	½ <i>d.</i>
3417	Fiume ... .. 1904	1 <i>d.</i>	<b>German Empire :</b>		
3328	Trieste ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>	3402	Baden ... .. 1904	½ <i>d.</i>
<b>Belgium :</b>			3342	Chemnitz and Saxony ..	1 <i>d.</i>
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ... 1904	7½ <i>d.</i>	3451	Dantzic ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904-05	1 <i>d.</i>	3333	Germany ... ..	3 <i>d.</i>
3501	" Trade ... 1904	3 <i>d.</i>	3445	" ... ..	6 <i>d.</i>
634	<i>Diamond Industry of Antwerp</i> ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>	3390	" (Supplemen- tary) ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
640	<i>Scheme for the Extension of the Port of Antwerp</i> ...	7 <i>d.</i>	3506	Germany, First half of 1905	3 <i>d.</i>
<b>Bulgaria :</b>			3456	Germany (Finances) ...	2 <i>d.</i>
3395	Bulgaria ... .. 1904	1 <i>d.</i>	3519	German Colonies 1903-04	3 <i>d.</i>
<b>Denmark :</b>			3393	Hamburg ... .. 1904	4 <i>d.</i>
3324	Denmark (Supplemen- tary) ... .. 1903	½ <i>d.</i>	3358	Pomerania ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
3392	Denmark ... .. 1904	3½ <i>d.</i>	3485	Prussia (Finances) ... 1905	1 <i>d.</i>
3404	Faroe Islands ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>	3511	Württemberg ... .. 1904	1 <i>d.</i>
3350	Iceland ... .. 1901-03	1 <i>d.</i>	624	<i>Memorandum on German Cement</i> ... ..	½ <i>d.</i>
<b>France and Colonies :</b>			630	<i>Technical Instruction in Germany : Supplementary and Miscellaneous</i> ...	4 <i>d.</i>
3479	Algeria ... .. 1903-04	2 <i>d.</i>	636	<i>German Sea Fishing In- dustry and Trade</i> ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
3381	Bordeaux ... .. 1904	3 <i>d.</i>	642	<i>German paper industry and export trade</i> ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>
3330	Brest ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>	<b>Greece :</b>		
3346	Calais ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>	3367	Cyclades ... .. 1904	1 <i>d.</i>
3440	Cherbourg ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>	3516	Greece : Finances ... 1905	2 <i>d.</i>
3378	Cochin-China ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>	3474	Ionian Islands... .. 1904	2 <i>d.</i>
3462	Corsica ... ..	½ <i>d.</i>	3369	Morea, Ætolia and Acarnania ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>
3413	Dunkirk ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>	3370	Piræus ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>
3510	France ... 1904 and First 8 months of 1905	1½ <i>d.</i>	3361	Thessaly ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>
3473	French Budget ... 1905	2 <i>d.</i>	<b>Italy :</b>		
3368	Havre ... .. 1904	3½ <i>d.</i>	3438	Ancona... .. 1904	½ <i>d.</i>
3513	Ivory Coast ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>	3427	Brindisi and Province of Lecce ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
3409	Lyons, St. Etienne and Grenoble ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>	3416	Central Italy ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>
3509	Madagascar ... ..	½ <i>d.</i>	3446	Genoa ... ..	3 <i>d.</i>
3482	Marseilles ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>	3320	Italy ... .. 1903	1½ <i>d.</i>
3466	Martinique ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>	3338	Italy—Finances ... 1904	1½ <i>d.</i>
3336	Nantes ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>	3487	Leghorn ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>
3431	New Caledonia 1903-04	1½ <i>d.</i>	3454	Lombardy ... ..	3 <i>d.</i>
3383	Nice ... .. 1904	½ <i>d.</i>	3396	Sicily ... ..	3 <i>d.</i>

## Government Publications.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
3323	South Italy ... .. 1904	1½d.		<b>Sweden:</b>	
3496	South Italy (Supple- mentary) ... .. "	2d.	3450	Gothenburg ... .. 1904	2½d.
3340	Venice ... .. 1903-04	1½d.	3412	Stockholm and Eastern Coast ... .. "	2½d.
632	<i>Silk Trade and Yield of Cocoons in 1904</i> ... ..	1d.		<b>Switzerland:</b>	
633	<i>Mineral Wealth of the Provinces of Siena and Grosseto</i> ... ..	1d.	3520	Trade in 1904 and the new Swiss Customs Tariff ...	2½d.
	<b>Netherlands and Colonies:</b>			<b>Turkey:</b>	
3331	Amsterdam ... .. 1904	1d.	3363	Aleppo and Adana ... 1904	1½d.
3428	Curacao ... .. 1902-04	2d.	3477	Baghdad ... .. "	1d.
3463	Dutch Guiana ... .. 1904	1d.	3459	Beirut and Coast of Syria ... .. "	1d.
3403	Java ... .. "	2d.	3382	Bussorah ... .. "	½d.
3391	Rotterdam ... .. "	1½d.	3357	Constantinople ... .. "	2d.
	<b>Norway:</b>		3494	Crete ... .. "	½d.
3425	Norway ... .. 1904	½d.	3437	Damascus ... .. "	1½d.
	<b>Portugal and Colonies:</b>		3442	Erzeroum ... .. 1904	1d.
3478	Angola ... .. 1904	½d.	3483	Hedjaz, The ... .. 1900-04	1½d.
3536	Azores ... .. 1897-1904	½d.	3497	Hodeida & Camaran 1902-04	1½d.
3422	Beira ... .. 1904	1½d.	3410	Palestine ... .. 1900-04	1½d.
3518	Goa ... .. 1904-05	1d.	3430	Salonica ... .. "	1½d.
3495	Chinde ... .. "	1d.	3467	Smyrna ... .. "	2d.
3439	Lourenço Marques ... ..	2½d.	3359	Trebizond ... .. "	3½d.
3475	Madeira ... .. "	1d.	3488	Tripoli ... .. 1903-04	1½d.
3418	North Portugal ... ..	1d.		<b>AFRICA—</b>	
	<b>Roumania:</b>		3397	Alexandria ... .. 1904	1½d.
3432	Roumania ... .. 1904	2½d.	3443	Dar-al-Baida ... .. "	2d.
	<b>Russia:</b>		3375	Pemba ... .. "	1d.
3366	Batoum ... .. 1904	1½d.	3448	Port Said and Suez ... ..	1½d.
3476	Finland ... .. "	1d.	3321	Somaliland Protec- torate ... .. 1903-04	3d.
3441	Moscow ... .. "	1½d.	3322	Tangier and District 1902	1½d.
3480	Odessa ... .. "	3d.	3426	" .. .. 1904	1½d.
3351	Poland and Lithuania ..	3d.	3492	Tunis ... .. "	1½d.
3481	Riga ... .. "	2d.	3517	Zanzibar ... .. "	1d.
3447	Rostov-on-Don ... ..	2d.		<b>AMERICA, NORTH—</b>	
3424	St. Petersburg ... ..	3d.		<b>United States of America:</b>	
3514	Trans-Caucasus, Agri- culture ... .. 1905	½d.	3326	Baltimore ... .. 1904	1½d.
628	<i>Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus</i> ... ..	½d.	3489	Boston ... .. 1904	3d.
	<b>Servia:</b>		3433	California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona ... ..	2½d.
3329	Servia ... .. 1903	1½d.	3349	Chicago ... .. "	4d.
	<b>Spain:</b>		3365	Hawaii ... .. 1903-04	1d.
3460	Barcelona ... .. 1904	2½d.	3401	New Orleans ... .. 1904	3d.
3352	Bilbao ... .. "	2½d.	3353	New York ... .. "	2½d.
3414	Cadiz ... .. "	2d.	3419	Oregon, Washington and Idaho ... .. 1904	2½d.
3470	Canary Islands ... ..	2d.	3398	Philadelphia ... .. "	2½d.
3411	Galicia, The Asturias and Leon ... .. "	1½d.	3512	Philippine Islands ... ..	7d.
3458	Malaga ... .. "	3d.	3379	Porto Rico ... .. "	1½d.
			3472	Savannah ... .. "	2d.
			3348	Texas ... .. "	2d.
			625	<i>Rice Industry in the United States</i> ... ..	2d.
			626	<i>Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition</i> ...	2½d.
			627	<i>United States Railways</i> ...	2½d.
			631	<i>Coal Industry of the United States, 1903</i> ... ..	2½d.

## Government Publications.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
<b>Mexico:</b>			<b>ASIA—</b>		
3332	Mexico ... .. 1903	2½d.	<b>China:</b>		
3429	" ... .. 1904	6d.	3468	Amoy ... .. 1904	1d.
3503	Vera Cruz ... .. "	2½d.	3344	Canton ... .. "	1d.
<b>AMERICA, CENTRAL—</b>			3373	Chinkiang ... .. "	1d.
3444	Costa Rica ... .. 1904	1d.	3435	Foochow ... .. "	1d.
3469	Guatemala ... .. "	1½d.	3386	Hankow ... .. "	1½d.
3334	Honduras: Trade and		3471	Ichang ... .. "	1d.
	Agriculture ... 1903-04	1d.	3452	Kiukiang ... .. "	1½d.
3371	Truxillo (Honduras) ... 1904	½d.	3372	Kiungchow ... .. "	1d.
3337	Nicaragua ... 1903 & 1904	2d.	3354	Newchwang ... .. "	1½d.
<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>			3505	Ningpo ... .. "	1d.
<b>Argentina:</b>			3421	Pakhoi ... .. "	½d.
3434	Argentina—Finances and		3455	Swatow ... .. "	1d.
	Trade, 1904 & part of 1905	1½d.	3335	Teng Yueh ... .. "	½d.
3347	Buenos Ayres ... .. 1904	1½d.	3449	Wuchow ... .. "	1½d.
3362	Rosario ... .. "	1d.	3364	Wuhu ... .. "	1d.
639	Quebracho and Cotton in		629	Cotton Mills of China ...	2d.
	the Argentine Chaco ...	1d.	641	Land Taxation in the	
				Province of Honan ...	1d.
<b>Bolivia:</b>			<b>Japan:</b>		
3388	Bolivia ... .. 1904	2½d.	3341	Hakodate ... .. 1904	1½d.
<b>Brazil:</b>			3377	Japan ... .. "	2½d.
3436	Pará ... .. 1903-04	1d.	3387	Kobe and Osaka ... .. "	5½d.
3453	Porto Alegre ... .. 1904	1½d.	3457	Nagasaki ... .. "	1d.
3521	Santos ... .. 1902-04	2d.	3405	North Formosa ... .. "	1½d.
<b>Chile:</b>			3490	Tainan ... .. "	1½d.
3465	Chile ... .. 1904	3d.	3502	Yokohama ... .. "	1½d.
3345	Coquimbo ... .. "	½d.	635	Japanese paper-making ...	1d.
			637	" tea culture ...	1d.
<b>Colombia:</b>			<b>Korea:</b>		
3423	Barranquilla ... .. 1904	½d.	3407	Korea ... .. 1904	1½d.
3339	Santa Marta—Trade		<b>Muskat:</b>		
	and Agriculture ... .. "	½d.	3415	Muskat ... .. 1904-5	1d.
<b>Guatemala:</b>			<b>Persia:</b>		
3400	Quezaltenango ... .. 1904	½d.	3360	Arabistan ... .. 1904	1d.
<b>Peru:</b>			3507	Azerbaijan ... .. 1904-05	½d.
3355	Iquitos ... .. 1904	½d.	3374	Kerman ... .. 1904-05	1d.
3491	Peru ... .. "	1½d.	3420	Kermanshah ... .. 1904-05	1½d.
<b>Uruguay:</b>			3376	Khorassan ... .. 1903-04	2d.
3461	Uruguay (Supplemen-		3499	" ... .. 1904-05	2½d.
	tary) ... .. 1903	½d.	3408	Persian Gulf ... .. 1904	4½d.
3515	Uruguay Trade and		3500	Sistan and Kain ... .. 1904-05	1d.
	Finances ... .. 1904	1d.	<b>Siam:</b>		
<b>Venezuela:</b>			3504	Bangkok ... .. 1904	1½d.
3384	Caracas ... .. 1904	1d.	3464	Chiengmai ... .. "	1d.
3394	Ciudad Bolivar ... .. "	½d.	<b>PACIFIC ISLANDS—</b>		
<b>WEST INDIES—</b>			3406	Friendly Islands ... 1902-04	1d.
3484	Cuba ... .. 1904	1d.	3380	Samoa ... .. 1904	1d.
3385	Hayti and Santo				
	Domingo ... .. "	1d.			

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*March, 1905.*

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

January 25, 1906.

[No. 478

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 191.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe- { Tientsin	14th Dec., 1905	509
tition with British in ... { Shanghai	5th Oct., 1905	10
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 192.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of brass boiler tubes, as per specification to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Brass Boiler  
Tubes.

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## *Openings for British Trade.*

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### **BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Brass Boiler Tubes," not later than noon, on Wednesday, the 31st January. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

An extract from the recent report of H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg respecting German trade with India, is published on pp. 159-60 in which attention is called to the increasing demand for motor cars in that country, and also for the cheaper kinds of copper utensils.

**Motor Cars.**  
**Copper Utensils.**

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### **CANADA.**

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.** **Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm buying acetate of lime would be pleased to hear from Canadian producers of this material.

A London manufacturer of highest and medium class cravats, cravat silk, shirts, collars and umbrellas, desires to appoint an agent for the sale of these goods in Canada.

A Lancashire firm desire the addresses of Canadian manufacturers of wheel-barrow.

An Irish manufacturer of grey and dyed linens used in the tailoring and drapery trades is prepared to appoint a suitable resident Canadian agent.

A Lancashire firm ask for the addresses of probable Canadian buyers of coal tar products and also of carbonate of ammonia.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Canadian company wish to purchase large quantities of sheep-casings (not cleaned) and invite quotations from United Kingdom shippers.

A Montreal firm of manufacturers' agents wish to obtain a first class agency in sardines.

A Winnipeg manufacturers' agent, now in London, wishes to secure the representation for Western Canada of British manufacturers of woollen, cotton, and lisle underwear, umbrellas and parasols, and linen and silk goods.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

Tenders will be received at the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide, up till 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 27th February, for the supply and delivery at the Public Stores, Port Adelaide, during a period of two years from the 30th June next, of 112 tons of white cotton waste. Samples should be submitted with tenders, but in the event of samples not being available, the waste must be strictly in accordance with the standard sample, which can be seen at the Public Stores, Port Adelaide.

The waste is to be delivered in quarterly instalments of 14 tons, the first instalment to be delivered on or before 7th July.

All consignments are to remain in the possession of the Department for a period of fourteen days before being weighed. In the event of any failure of the contractor to supply the waste at the time specified it will be procured at such time and from such place as the Board may determine, and the additional cost (if any) beyond the contract price will be charged to the contractor. Any irregularity in the quantity or quality of the supplies, or any delay in delivering or replacing them when required, will subject the contractor to the loss of his contract and forfeiture of the deposit.

If any difference shall arise with the contractor as to whether any waste rejected was of equal quality to the contract standard sample, or to the sample submitted with tender, or according to contract, such difference shall be submitted by the contractor in writing to the Supply and Tender Board, and the decision of the said Board shall be final and binding. Should the said Board find it necessary to refer the dispute to an expert, the expense of such reference shall fall on the contractor if the decision is against him.

Forms of tender can be obtained at the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide, South Australia, and from the Chief Storekeeper, Public Stores, Port Adelaide. No tender will be recognised unless on the proper printed form. Tenders should be endorsed "Tender for Cotton Waste." The successful tenderer will be required, within seven days of date of notice of acceptance, to make a deposit equal to 50% as security for the fulfilment of the contract. Neither the lowest nor any tender necessarily accepted.

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**SOUTH AFRICA.**

The Canadian Commercial Agent in Cape Town reports an opening for scoops, better known on that market, he says, under the name of drag scrapers. The demand is practically monopolised by the United States.

He also reports that boring for water is very largely on the increase throughout South Africa, owing partly to Government

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### SOUTH AFRICA—*continued.*

financial assistance to farmers for this purpose, and partly to the absolute necessity to most farmers of having a reliable supply of water in times of drought; consequently the market for boring machinery will be an expanding one for some time to come.

In reply to an enquiry as to the possibilities of the South African market in regard to refrigerators, he states that there is a good demand, which is capable of being greatly enlarged, especially as regards hotels, restaurants and bars.

The following particulars of the articles most in demand with the natives of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony are taken from a report by the French Consul-General at Pretoria (M. A. Chevalley):—

**Articles for  
Natives in the  
Transvaal and  
Orange River  
Colony.**

The trade with the coloured population of these colonies is monopolised by Germany and the United Kingdom. The profits obtained are large, as a great proportion of the 10,000,000 blacks of various tribes living south of the Zambesi are well to do, there being always a demand for native labour. Coloured servants earn from 3*l.* to 4*l.* 16*s.* a month, in addition to board and lodging, and other forms of labour are also well paid. Stringent legislation prevents the sale of spirits to the natives, so most of their earnings are devoted to purchases of a varied nature. A certain number of articles are imported exclusively for sale in the kraals. Among these, toilet wares rank first. There is a very great demand for violent perfumes, sold chiefly in flat cardboard boxes containing twelve assorted bottles: these boxes are sold to Pretoria traders at about 3*s.* 1½*d.* apiece. These goods are of German origin, but are despatched from London. Germany also sends celluloid hairpins and combs. Hairbrushes with a small mirror inserted in the back, costing about 4*s.* 11*d.* a dozen, are in very great demand. Fancy pins are used largely by the Kaffir women to fasten their blankets; these are made of gilded copper, with red or green glass heads. They come from the United Kingdom and Germany, and are sold to Pretoria traders at from 7*s.* 3½*d.* to 16*s.* 8*d.* a gross. Other articles in demand are small oil lamps, leather purses, briar or imitation briar pipes, mouth organs, accordeons, cheap cutlery, glass beads, and copper wire bracelets.

### CYPRUS.

The "Cyprus Gazette" of 15th December announces that the Board of Agriculture, Cyprus, invite tenders for the exclusive right of fishing for sponges with one, two or three boats with diving machinery on the coast of Cyprus west of a line drawn through

### *Openings for British Trade.*

Limasol and Kyrenia, for a period of twelve months from the 1st April, 1906.

Tenders, marked "Tender for Sponge Fishing," should be addressed to "The President of the Tender Board, Chief Secretary's Office, Nicosia," and should arrive there not later than 11 a.m. on the 31st January, 1906.

Full details of the Cyprus sponge fishing can be obtained at the Office of the Principal Forest Officer, Nicosia.

### **ZANZIBAR AND PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.**

See page 175 for notices respecting samples of Holland-printed "kangas" sold in Zanzibar, and of printed cotton goods sold by Dutch and German firms in Beira.

#### **Textiles.**

### **NORWAY.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a notification from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray), to the effect that tenders are invited by the Norwegian Naval Authorities at Horten for the supply of various manufactured goods, including cotton cloths, flannel, bunting, woollen yarn, India twill, &c. Tenders addressed to "Marinens Intendantur, Horten, Norway," and marked "Anbud paa manufacturvarer," will be received up to 1 p.m. on the 1st March.

Conditions of tender, together with samples and specification, the latter showing the descriptions, amount, widths, and weight per metre of the goods required, the price under the last contract, and certain special conditions, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Samples should accompany tenders in all cases, except where a tenderer can refer to goods supplied by him under last year's contract.

The Acting Consul-General draws attention to Section 4 of the conditions of tender, which states that foreign firms who are considered as "well-known" will be permitted to tender direct, instead of through Agents residing in Norway.

*Note.*—Apart from the usual Customs duties a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

A further notification has been received from the Acting Consul-

#### **Telegraph Material.**

General to the effect that tenders will be received by the Norwegian State Telegraph Department up to noon on the 10th February for the supply of insulators, hooks, telephone wire, steel cables, &c. Mr. Gray adds that he will shortly forward further particulars relating to this contract.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### NORWAY—continued.

A notice appears in "Verdens Gang" of 15th January, stating that tenders for the supply of paper will be received by the Norwegian Telegraph Administration up to midday on 3rd February. Specifications, conditions, and samples may be seen at the Office of the Technical Section of the Administration, 3, Hasselgaarden, Christiania, or at the Offices of the Telegraph Inspectors at Trondhjem, Bergen, Stavanger, and Arendal, on any day between the hours of 12 and 1.

#### Paper.

### SWEDEN.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor) that tenders are invited for the supply to the Swedish State Railways of—

20,000 kilogs.	olive oil	...	...	} Tenders, accompanied by samples, will be received up to noon on 10th February.
15,000	"	linseed oil, raw	...	
60,000	"	" " boiled	...	
50,000	"	rape oil	...	
6,000	"	turpentine	...	
50,000	"	tallow	...	
60,000	"	soap	...	} Tenders, accompanied by samples, will be received up to noon on 17th February.
700,000 kilogs.	petroleum (American)	...	...	
200,000	"	" (Russian)	...	
450,000	"	cylinder oil	...	
450,000	"	locomotive oil	...	
900,000	"	waggon oil	...	
300,000	"	cotton waste	...	
270,000	"	calcium carbide	...	
100,000	drying cloths	...	...	

Particulars may be obtained from "Jernvagsstyrelsens Forradsbyra, Central Station, Stockholm." Tenders should be addressed "Registratorn, Kungl. Jernvagsstyrelsens, Stockholm," and marked "Anbud a Bomolja" (Tender for Olive Oil), or as the case may be.

The following documents, forwarded by H.M. Consul, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. :—

Conditions of delivery of the various articles required ; forms of contract ; form of delivery.

The supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" of 16th January contains notices inviting tenders for the following supplies :—

#### Army Clothing and Supplies.

(1) Certain articles of clothing, &c., for the

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**SWEDEN**—*continued.*

use of the Royal Göta Engineer Corps. The goods required comprise :—

- 500 kilos. of sole leather,
- 1,000 pairs of knitted cotton drawers,
- 1,000 cotton shirts,
- 500 caps,
- 1,500 pairs of woollen stockings,

as well as certain quantities of galoons, distinction cord, canvas, &c.

Tenders must be sent in by midday on 3rd February to the "Forvaltningen vid Kungl. Göta ingenjörkar," Carlsborg. Further particulars may be obtained from the office of the Intendant of the Corps, Carlsborg.

(2) Certain quantities of cloth, buttons, company marks, cords, socks and other articles for the use of the Royal Jönköping Regiment. Tenders must be sent in to the Administration of the regiment at Jönköping by 1 p.m. on 2nd February. Further particulars may be obtained from the Regimental Offices at Jönköping.

(3) Certain articles of clothing, cloth, distinction marks, brushware, leather, &c., to the Royal Svea Transport Corps, the quantities required not being specified. Tenders should be sent to the "Kungl. Svea trängkars Förvaltning," Stockholm, before midday on 1st February. Further details may be obtained, and samples seen, at the office of the Storekeeper of the Transport, Corps, Marieberg, on Tuesdays and Fridays between 11 a.m. and midday.

(4) Manufacture of certain articles from materials supplied from the regimental store and supply of specified quantities of shirts, socks, cord, buttons, &c. Tenders will be received up to 1 p.m. on 15th February, by the Administration of the Royal West Bothnian Regiment (Kungl. Västerbottens regementes Förvaltning), Umeå. Further particulars can be obtained from the Intendant of the Regiment.

(5) Cloth, buttons, distinction cord and marks, fur caps, plumes, &c., to the Royal Kronoberg Regiment. Tenders must be sent to the Administration of the Regiment, Wäxjö, by midday on 5th February. Further particulars may be obtained from the Regimental Offices, Wäxjö.

A list of the articles required in each of the above tenders, together with the quantities in two cases, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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## *Openings for British Trade.*

### DENMARK.

The Swedish Consul-General at Copenhagen reports that there should be in Denmark a market for acetylene gas plant and lighting apparatus. It is stated that in spite of high import duties a firm in the South of Sweden has found a very good sale of these articles in Denmark in recent years.

**Acetylene Gas  
Apparatus.**

gas plant and lighting apparatus. It is stated that in spite of high import duties a firm in the

South of Sweden has found a very good sale of these articles in Denmark in recent years.

### GERMANY.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal), that tenders are invited by the Harbour Authorities at Swinemünde for the supply of the following during the fiscal year, 1906:—

**Wire Rope;  
Rope; Cast Iron  
Machine-parts  
and Fire-bars.**

1. 2,584 metres of steel wire-rope in various lengths and thicknesses. Sealed tenders marked "Angebot auf die Lieferung von Stahldrahtseilen," and addressed "Die Kgl. Hafenbauinspektion, Swinemünde," will be received up to 11 a.m. on 19th February. Delivery must be carried out by 1st June, 1906.

2. 1,215 kilos. small rope, 6,248 kilos. large hemp rope, and 5,000 kilos. Manila rope. Sealed tenders marked "Angebot auf die Lieferung von Tauwerk" will be received, at the same address, up to 11 a.m. on 13th February. Delivery must be carried out by 15th June.

3. 8,030 kilos. cast iron machine-parts, and 11,170 kilos. cast iron fire-bars. Sealed tenders marked "Angebot auf die Lieferung von Maschinenteilen und Rosten" will be received, at the same address, up to 11 a.m. on 9th February. Delivery of materials is to be made on receipt of notices within four weeks after receipt of order.

The conditions of contract may be seen at the office of the Hafenbauinspektion, or may be obtained there on payment, by money order, of 2s. 6d. in the case of (1) and (3), and 1s. in the case of (2). Tenders are to hold good for four weeks.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 20th January, states that the adjudication will take place on the 8th February, for the supply of 16,765 kilogs. of chains during the year 1906, required for the harbour at Swinemünde. Tenders should be addressed to "Der Hafenbauinspektor, Swinemünde," from whom also the conditions may be obtained, price 3 marks.

**Chains.**

The same issue of the "Bulletin" contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply and erection of 18 electric cranes at Hamburg. Tenders will be opened on the 16th February, at the offices of the Finance Administration, Hamburg, whence conditions, price 3 marks, may be obtained.

**Electric Cranes.**

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## *Openings for British Trade.*

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### NETHERLANDS.

According to the "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels), the "Eiland Goedereede" (Agricultural Association at Goedereede) invite tenders, which will be received up to the 31st January, for the supply of 85,400 kilogs. superphosphate, 3,200 kilogs. ditto ammoniacal, 10,400 kilogs. Peruvian guano, and 22,400 kilogs. Chilian saltpetre; and the Commission for Co-operative Purchases at Bedum, Friesland, invite tenders up to 1st February for the supply of 70,000 kilogs. of artificial fertilizers.

**Artificial  
Fertilizers.**

It is further stated that the Scharendijke Agricultural Association at Duivendijke will shortly invite tenders for the supply of 123,000 kilogs. superphosphate, 7,800 kilogs. ditto ammoniacal, and 8,900 kilogs. Chilian saltpetre.

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### NETHERLANDS INDIES.

From a report on the finances of the Netherlands Indies for the year 1905-6, by Mr. G. A. Mounsey, Third Secretary to H.M. Legation at the Hague, it appears that the Budget estimates for the year include an amount of 525,858*l.* for extraordinary expenditure for public works, among which the following items may be noted, viz.:—281,500*l.* for railways, 65,000*l.* for irrigation work, 62,500*l.* for the Atchin tramway, 15,166*l.* for electric motive power, laying of transport railway, and setting up a pump station at Sawah Loento, 14,500*l.* for salt presses, and 5,501*l.* for harbour works at Macassar and a dock for Sourabaya.

**Public Works.**

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### BELGIUM.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) announces that tenders are invited by the Belgian State Railways for the supply of various manufactures of iron, steel, copper, &c. The adjudication of one series of lots will take place on 7th February. at the Bourse, Brussels, and of the other series at the same place on 21st February.

**Railway  
Material:  
Electric Lighting  
Plant.**

Tenders will also be invited shortly by the State Railways for the installation of electric light in the station at Esschen and for the supply of apparatus for the electric lighting of trains.

The general conditions governing Belgian Government contracts may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. The special conditions in the case of the above (*Cahier des charges spécial* No. 211 and *avis spécial* No. 209) may be obtained on application to the "Bureau des Adjudications, Musée Commercial, rue des Augustins, Brussels."

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## *Openings for British Trade.*

### FRANCE.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Brest (Captain H. F. Gye, R.N.), in which he reports the recent formation of a syndicate at Plougastel comprising 160 strawberry growers in the best part of the Plougastel neighbourhood. These growers will only supply fruit grown by themselves, and they are prepared to deliver it guaranteed in the best condition possible. The season begins in the middle of May and lasts from five to six weeks. The amount from sales last year was rather over 50,000*l*.

Communications from British firms may be sent under cover to H.M. Consul, British Consulate, Brest.

### SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 13th January contains a notice inviting the presentation of plans for the construction of a reservoir on the left bank of the river Manzanares, between the Puente de los Franceses and the Puente de la Princesa, and for carrying out canalisation works with a view to providing constantly the water necessary for the cleansing of the river, and the regularity of its current. Plans should be deposited at the "Ayuntamiento," Madrid, within four months of the date on which the notice appeared in the "Gaceta"; they will be examined by a committee of experts who will announce their decision within the term of two months. The contract for the execution of the works, for which a term of five years is allowed, will form the subject of a public call for tenders; the author of the scheme selected being granted special rights when tendering.

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th January contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened simultaneously on 25th February at the "Dirección General de Contribuciones, Impuestos y Rentas," Madrid, and at the "Delegación de Hacienda," Cordoba, for the supply of the coal needed to the Almadén quicksilver mines during 1906, in accordance with conditions on view at the above-mentioned offices. The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 84,750 pesetas (about 2,742*l*). A deposit of 4,237 pesetas (about 137*l*.) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" of 17th January announces that the Municipality of Salamanca are desirous of installing water meters in the houses which they supply. Manufacturers of these meters are therefore

#### **Water Meters.**

### *Openings for British Trade.*

invited to submit specimens of their goods in order that the Municipality may decide on the most serviceable type fulfilling the following conditions:—

1. The mechanism must be simple and not liable to be thrown out of gear by muddy water.

2. It must be capable of registering as accurately as possible the number of cubic metres used at pressures varying between 0·50 and 38.

3. The registration dial must be easily legible and capable of registering up to 1,000 cubic metres.

Meters should be delivered at the Salamanca railway station within twenty days of the publication of the notice in the "Gaceta." The Municipality undertake to collect them at the station and to return them there; all other freight charges must be borne by the manufacturers. Each meter must be accompanied by a detailed description and a statement of the price including cost of carriage to Salamanca.

### ITALY.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 17th January contains a Decree authorising the Rome Tramways and Omnibus Company to substitute electric for animal traction on a portion of their system.

#### **Electric Tramway Plant.**

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome), reports that the following applications have been made for the appropriation of water for industrial purposes:

#### **Hydro-electric Plant.**

1. By Signori Boine, Minoli & Pasquale, of Susa, to the Prefect of Turin, for the appropriation from the Dora Riparia, in the territory of Susa.

2. By Signori Beniamino & Luigi Viscogliosi, of Liri, to the Prefect of Caserta, for an appropriation from the river Liri.

The "Bollettino" adds that the following concessions have been granted:

1. By the Sub-Prefect of Pallanza to Signori Fighetti, of Vignone, for an appropriation from the river Peschiera, in Pallanza.

2. By the Prefect of Genoa to Signor Boccoli Pietro, for an appropriation from the Borsa waterfall, in the commune of Maissana.

3. By the Prefect of Pesaro to the Società Elettrica Metaurense for an appropriation from the river Cantigliana.

### BULGARIA.

According to the "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels), tenders will be received at the offices of the Finance Administration of the district of Sophia for the supply of (1) iron pipes, estimated cost 1,368l.; (2) lubricating oil, estimated cost 2,970l.; and (3) cotton waste, estimated cost 942l., all for the use of the Bulgarian State Railways. Particulars can be obtained from the above-mentioned office.

#### **Iron Pipes, Lubricating Oil and Cotton Waste.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**SERVIA.**

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, from the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Mr. W. G. Thesiger), notifying that an agent of good standing there wishes to be placed in communication with English firms who supply railway material, such as rails, bolts, rivets, and all the requisites for laying-down or repairing of permanent way.

The reason for this enquiry, says the Vice-Consul, is that the Austrian, German, and Belgian firms have come to an agreement with regard to the price of such material as supplied to the Balkan countries, and the agent in question is anxious to see if British firms cannot compete successfully against this arrangement.

Communications from British firms may be sent under cover to the British Vice-Consul, Belgrade.

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**MEXICO.**

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 27th December contains the text of a contract entered into with Señor Juan de la Fuente Parres for an appropriation of water from the River Trinidad de Jaltepec, State of Mexico, for the purposes of irrigation and the production of motive power.

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**CHILE.**

The German Consul at Concepcion has forwarded to his Government a report, accompanied by samples, of the textile goods imported into Chile.

It appears that in cotton hosiery goods, Germany leads. In the south of Chile, on account of the stormy weather, the heavier qualities of such goods, preferably dark in colour, are in request. So-called Manchester qualities, of British origin, have a considerable sale in the south. Lighter qualities, both coloured and black, come principally from Italy.

Printed "flannellettes" (cotton) are important staple articles of import in which the Germans have not yet succeeded in competing with British goods. Such is also the case with Oxfords, &c.

Printed or plain pointed "Percales" have also a considerable sale, chiefly for the summer season. The cheaper qualities come partly from the United Kingdom and partly from the factory of a British company near Concepcion, who import the raw material under favourable tariff conditions and then dye and print. The better kinds of "Percales" come from Germany.

There is a small demand for bunting. Besides black, the Chilean colours most in favour are red, white and blue in the proportion of 3 : 2 : 1.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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Woollen cashmeres, cloths, &c., are of local manufacture. They are the output of a Chilean cloth factory recently transferred into German hands, which has seriously damaged foreign importations, particularly in the matter of military supplies. The better descriptions of these goods are still imported from the United Kingdom, Germany, France, &c., but the local factory has been producing, with good results, woollen shawls, mantles, bed-spreads, &c.

Handkerchiefs, ties, &c., have a fairly considerable sale, the United Kingdom being to the front in this class of goods.

As regards upholsterers' goods, imports consist chiefly of the better qualities.

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**BRAZIL.**

On pp. 178-9 will be found particulars of the Budget estimates of expenditure of Brazil for 1906, in which provision is made, *inter alia*, for the disbursement of certain sums on building construction; meteorological apparatus; lighthouse construction; surgical instruments; life saving apparatus; submarine construction; telegraph and telephone lines; plants, seeds and stock cattle for agriculturists; water works; and port improvement works. Provision is also made for the free importation, under certain conditions, of hydro-electric plant.

The Brazilian "Diario Oficial" of 27th December contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Central Railway of Brazil of the material necessary for a compressed air installation, including a compressor, a lift and other accessories. Tenders have to be presented at noon on 23rd February, at the offices of the Company in Rio de Janeiro, where specifications and drawings may be inspected. A deposit of 300 milreis (about 33*l.* 15*s.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Diario" of 29th December contains a Decree sanctioning the expenditure of 500,000 milreis (about 56,250*l.*) on widening the gauge of the Central Railway of Brazil between Taubaté and Sao Paulo.

The "Diario" of 31st November contains a Decree approving the plans and estimates submitted by the "Compagnie Auxiliaire de Chemins de Fer au Brésil" for the construction of the first 25 kiloms. of a line to connect Neustadt with the Rio Grande do Sul Railway. The cost of this work is estimated at 1,102,847 milreis (about 111,662*l.*).

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**ARGENTINA.**

The "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Ayres) of 22nd December, announces that the Province of Buenos Ayres has granted a concession for a light railway from Ramallo to Arrecifes, to Messrs. V. Musante and S. C. Gil. The maximum cost is not to exceed 7,000 dols. gold per kilometre.

In the same issue, the "Review" says it is reported that the negotiations between the Province of Buenos Ayres and a firm of bankers, represented by Messrs. Bemberg & Co., for a network of railways, are now nearly complete. The line will start from La Plata and go to meridian five, a distance of about 1,250 kilometres.

According to the current issue of the "Bulletin" of the International Bureau of the American Republics, the annual value of the imports of bolts, cramps, and rivets into the Argentine Republic amounts to 358,000 dols. gold. The principal countries from which they are imported are the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium, and France. Recently the United States has also entered the field.

The imports have decreased on account of the progress of the national industry, which is protected by high Customs duties on the gross weight of the cases. Consequently the large-sized bolts and rivets are the most heavily taxed, and their importation has become very difficult. The small-sized articles are, on the contrary, sold in large quantities. Bolts of more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. in diameter and 2 ins. long are manufactured in the country, there being several important bolt factories.

The imported rivets are from  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. to  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. in diameter and 1 in. in length. Among the bolts most in demand are those with round heads and mechanical heads for carpentry and for metal and naval construction.

Screws are not manufactured in the country and have a large sale.

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**JAPAN.**

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th January, pp. 56-7, respecting the increasing demand for fertilisers in Japan, it should be noted that the reference to the import of "phosphate of chalk" should read "phosphate of lime."

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## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE.

The President of the Board of Trade, on the nomination of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, has appointed Mr. Henry Birchenough, C.M.G., who is already a member of the new Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, to represent the South African Colonies on that Committee.

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## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**India.**—A report on German trade with India by H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir W. Ward, C.V.O.) has recently been issued by the Foreign Office. In this report two tables are given showing (A) the value of the imports into Germany from India during the years 1900, 1902 and 1904; and (B) the value of the exports from Germany to India during the same years, which should prove of interest to the commercial community.

Commenting on the German export trade to India in metals and metal manufactures, the Consul-General states that the annual value of the exports of iron (malleable) in bars, sheet-iron, &c., has remained almost stationary during the years 1901-04.

During the year 1904 the exportation from Germany, as well as from the United Kingdom, Austria-Hungary and Belgium of iron machinery and implements of agriculture, of sewing machines, of tools, cutlery and enamelled goods was again considerable. Though the total value of German exportations of these goods to India is still far below that of the exportations from the United Kingdom, there are indications that Germany is exerting herself particularly in the direction of the export trade of machinery, cutlery and hardware, and it may be observed, says the Consul-General, there is little doubt that a proportion of the iron and steel manufactures now shipped from Belgium to India is derived from Germany. Considerable shipments of iron locks have recently been made from Hamburg to India. Several German motor-car factories have, it appears, been supplying Indian firms during the year 1904, and are stated to be pushing this trade vigorously in India, where the demand for these vehicles is said to be increasing.

The exportation of copper alloys has increased in a very marked degree in 1904, and, in view of the widespread use and constant demand for copper utensils in India, it is considered likely that there will always be a good market, especially for the cheaper kinds of these copper goods.

In conclusion, the Consul-General remarks that, though German export trade to India has not up to the present reached any very great importance, particularly when compared with the export trade from the United Kingdom, there can be no doubt that

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*British Trade Abroad.*

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Germany, and more especially Hamburg and Bremen, are exerting themselves in many directions to extend their trade with India. German firms already connected in business with India have indeed lately begun to complain of increasing competition in this trade on the part of firms of their own country; and competent authorities have assured the Consul-General that of late numerous German shipping houses, after finding that North and South America seemed to offer an insufficient field for their business operations, and that business with the Far East was too difficult, have turned their attention to India, where they hope to find business more easy. How far these firms will be successful in their efforts is another question, for they will probably find it difficult to open business connections with the better class of firms in India, inasmuch as these are not likely to give up their old established relations with European houses of good standing. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,523.*)

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#### SPANISH TRADE IN FOODSTUFFS: IMITATION OF BRITISH LABELS.

With reference to the article published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st December last, respecting the practice, said to be very prevalent in Spain, of affixing labels and trade marks indicating English origin to goods which there is a strong presumption for believing to be of local manufacture, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Madrid (Sir A. Nicolson, Bart., G.C.V.O.) enclosing translation of a Royal Order, which prescribes that no trade marks in foreign languages shall be granted to Spanish manufacturers unless the place of manufacture in Spain be visibly inserted. The preamble of the Order states that this measure has been taken in order to reinforce the dispositions contained in a previous Royal Order of the 28th December, 1901, which prescribed that labels in a foreign language affixed to local goods should contain the local place of manufacture and the manufacturer's name. The Royal Order leaves no doubt as to the illegality of the practice, provided that the local origin of the goods can be proved.

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# MINERAL AND METAL PRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The following table, showing the *estimated* production of the more important minerals and metals in the United States in 1905, as compared with the preceding year, is taken from the "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York) of 6th January. The estimates, it is stated, are made by authorities in each branch, on substantial data, and in many cases they are compiled from reports of all, or nearly all, the producers, who have themselves estimated their probable output during the closing days of December:—

	Unit.	1904.		1905.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<b>Non-Metallic —</b>			Dollars.		Dollars.
Arsenic, white ... ..	short t.	498	29,504	875	52,481
Bauxite ... ..	long t.	48,012	166,121	47,173	200,485
Bromine ... ..	lb.	879,312	245,431	896,500	(g) 313,775
Carborundum ... ..	"	7,060,380	706,038	3,940,000	394,000
Cement, natural hydraulic	bbl. (a)	4,866,331	2,450,150	4,500,000	2,250,000
" Portland ... ..	" (b)	26,505,881	23,355,119	31,000,000	32,000,000
" slag ... ..	" (b)	303,045	226,651	300,000	210,000
Coal, anthracite ... ..	short t.	73,674,480	162,151,898	75,501,503	181,257,909
" bituminous (c) ... ..	"	277,065,582	311,667,680	297,706,453	366,178,937
Coke ... ..	"	22,035,292	54,178,015	26,219,071	79,968,166
Copper, sulphate ... ..	lb.	63,234,557	3,161,728	52,405,009	2,751,263
Copperas (f) ... ..	short t.	16,956	118,692	20,392	142,744
Crushed steel ... ..	lb.	790,000	55,300	812,000	56,840
Fluorspar ... ..	short t.	36,452	234,755	49,600	295,650
Garnet ... ..	"	2,952	89,636	3,694	114,625
Graphite, artificial ... ..	lb.	3,248,000	217,790	4,439,700	303,162
" crystalline ... ..	"	4,357,927	162,332	4,260,656	170,426
Iron ore ... ..	long t.	29,462,839	51,559,868	44,054,197	79,372,135
Lead, white ... ..	short t.	126,336	13,899,913	130,192	15,874,384
Lead, red ... ..	"	13,938	1,672,569	14,635	1,858,645
" orange mineral ... ..	"	1,125	168,681	1,181	203,132
Limestone & dolomite flux	long t.	10,657,038	4,702,768	11,435,900	5,146,155
Litharge ... ..	short t.	12,487	1,248,691	13,111	1,573,320
Pyrites ... ..	long t.	173,221	669,124	189,201	650,412
Sulphur ... ..	"	193,492	3,869,840	—	—
Zinc-lead ... ..	short t.	6,781	474,670	7,200	540,000
Zinc oxide ... ..	"	57,613	4,524,031	65,403	5,232,240
" ore, exported ... ..	"	35,911	905,782	26,597	738,532
Total, non-metallic...	...	—	642,912,777	—	777,849,418
<b>Metallic—</b>					
Copper (e) ... ..	lb.	817,715,005	106,302,950	925,267,840	145,257,798
Gold (fine) ... ..	oz. troy	3,904,986	80,723,200	4,178,592	86,337,700
Iron (pig) ... ..	long t.	16,276,641	225,268,711	23,010,625	382,666,694
Lead ... ..	short t.	302,204	26,043,941	322,587	30,368,340
Quicksilver... ..	flask (d)	35,258	1,489,716	30,256	1,173,932
Silver (fine) ... ..	oz. troy	57,786,100	33,515,938	58,938,355	37,437,643
Zinc... ..	short t.	181,803	18,543,906	199,964	23,523,765
Total, metallic ... ..	...	—	491,888,362	—	706,765,872
Grand total ... ..	...	—	1,134,801,139	—	1,484,615,290

(a) Barrels of 300 lbs. (b) Barrels of 380 lbs. (c) Includes cannel. (d) Flasks of 75 lbs. (e) Value computed on average of Lake copper at New York. (f) Only that marketed as copperas. (g) An arbitrary value, since over half the bromine reported was contained in bromides.

NOTE.—Short ton=2,000 lbs.; long ton=2,240 lbs.

## NEW ROUMANIAN CUSTOMS TARIFF—INTERIM STATEMENT.

The Board of Trade desire to direct attention to a publication which has just been issued by them, containing a translation of the New Customs Tariff of Roumania as modified by Treaties concluded by that State with the United Kingdom and Germany.

The New Roumanian Customs Tariff, with all the modifications introduced therein by such new commercial treaties as Roumania may conclude by that date, is to come into force on the 1st of March next. Up to the present, the only new treaties affecting the tariff rates which have been concluded are those with the United Kingdom and Germany, but other new treaties are known to be in contemplation, and any further modifications in the new tariff rates which may result from these will be extended to all countries entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment, including the United Kingdom. The present publication has been issued by the Board of Trade in view of the early approach of the application of the tariff and with the object of affording information for the use of those interested in trade with Roumania respecting the tariff rates *as they now stand*. Copies may be procured, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Son, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., at the price of Sixpence each.

## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of a Bill which was read the first time in the Federal House of Representatives on 12th December last, and which has been introduced in order to encourage manufactures in Australia by altering the provisions for bringing into operation Part VI. A of the schedule to the Federal Customs Tariff of 1902.

The Bill provides for the amendment of the heading to Division VI. A of the tariff by inserting the following words in lieu thereof:—

“The operation of this Division is suspended as to the articles of manufacture specified therein, which (except iron galvanized plate and sheet) are exempt from duty until this Division is brought into operation.

“This Division may, by Proclamation, be brought into operation as to any such article from a date specified in the Proclamation.

“Provided, however, that no Proclamation bringing this Division into operation as to any article shall be made until the Minister for Trade and Customs certifies that the manufacture of the article (or in the case of a Proclamation

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*Proposed Tariff Changes.*

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bringing this Division into operation as to scrap iron or scrap steel, certifies that the manufacture of iron or steel) from Australian ore or material is sufficiently established in the Commonwealth, and the certificate has been affirmed by joint addresses passed on the motion of Ministers by both Houses of Parliament."

NOTE.—The Federal Tariff provides, under Division VI. A, for the imposition of duties ranging from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, on various descriptions of iron and steel, under certain conditions. The rates of duty, and the original conditions, now proposed to be amended, were given on p. xxvi. of the Supplement to the "Board of Trade Journal" for 13th November, 1902.

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## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 25th November, 1905, has been received, which contains a Notice, dated 22nd November last, to the effect that, in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Regulation No. 131, a drawback will be allowed on the undermentioned imported material used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth upon exportation of such manufactured articles, under certain conditions, viz.:—

**Drawback on**  
**Rough Timber.** Rough timber used in the manufacture of doors and sashes.

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### MALTA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of the Maltese Tariff, as amended by an Order-in-Council of 20th November, 1905, and published in Malta on the 13th December last.

**Import Duty**  
**on Malt.** The amended Tariff contains an alteration whereby, under the Order-in-Council, a duty of 2s. per cantar (175 lbs.) is imposed on "malt" when imported into the Colony.

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### ST. LUCIA.

A copy of a Proclamation, dated 4th December, 1905, has been received from the Administrator of St. Lucia notifying that, in consequence of the existence of a fungoid disease of a serious nature in Trinidad, the importation, either directly or indirectly, of any root or other portion of a banana plant from Trinidad into the Colony is prohibited from the above date, and until further notice.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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vention in question, the principal provisions of which are as follow :—

The two countries accord to each other reciprocal most-favoured-nation treatment in all that relates to importation, exportation, and transit, with the exception of the special concessions granted by Portugal to Spain and to Brazil. In particular, Swiss cheeses are to receive the benefit of the tariff reductions accorded by Portugal to cheeses of Dutch or any other origin ; while port and Madeira, of normal strength—not exceeding 23 degrees of alcohol for port and 21 degrees for Madeira—are to be admitted into Switzerland at the “ conventional ” rates fixed for Italian Marsala, &c., or for wines of any other origin (8 frs. or 25 frs. per 100 kilogs. for wine in casks and in bottles respectively), without monopoly duty or supplementary tax ; certain other wines of Portuguese origin are to pay the same rates, provided that their alcoholic strength does not exceed 18 degrees.

Products of the Portuguese colonies re-exported from Portugal to Switzerland are to enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment in that country.

The Convention is to apply also to Madeira, Porto-Santo and the Azores.

The Convention is to remain in force for a period of five years from the date of the exchange of ratifications, and thereafter until one year after denunciation by either Contracting Party.

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**SPAIN.**

The “ Gaceta de Madrid ” of 16th January contains a Royal Decree notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of January was 24 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payment of Customs duties which are made in gold, during the second fortnight of the present month, is to be 20 per cent.

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**ROUMANIA—BULGARIA.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the provisional Commercial Agreement between Roumania and Bulgaria providing for reciprocal most-favoured-nation treatment has been prolonged for one year from the 1st January, 1906.

**Commercial  
Relations  
between the above  
Countries.**

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The United States Department of Agriculture have recently issued a Decision (F. I. D., 31) relative to labels on detachable wrappers enclosing packages of imported food products, the substance of which is as follows:—

**Imported Food Products—Labels on Detachable Wrappers.**

In the examination of certain imported food products, instances have been found where wrappers are used on which a part of the required label only is printed, and the declarations required in the principal label are omitted. Inasmuch as these packages may be sold without the removal of the wrapper, thereby withholding necessary information from the purchaser and consumer, inspectors of imported food products will be instructed to regard a package as misbranded if a wrapper is placed over the label attached to the package and the statements on the wrapper omit any of the declarations required on the principal label.

The provisions of this Decision are already in force.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

**Customs Decisions.**

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
<i>Picture books</i> .—Printed texts for children's books, and illustrations for the same, imported on the same invoice but separately packed; dutiable as entireties ... ..	400	Dols.   cts. Lb. 0 08
<i>Capers preserved in vinegar</i> , whether imported in bottles or in casks ... ..	241	40 % <i>ad val.</i>
<i>Gross cloth</i> , dutiable as paper hangings ... ..	402	25 %   "
<i>Barrel pens</i> .—Steel pens consisting of a pen point and barrel in one piece; dutiable as pens... ..	186	Gross 0 12
<i>Mackerel, salmon, and halibut</i> , frozen or packed in ice ... ..	261 1st Sub-division.	Lb. 0 00 $\frac{3}{4}$
[This reverses a previous decision reported at p. 598 of the "Journal" for 28th September, 1905.]		
<i>Steel rails</i> , old, and broken into pieces of irregular length and otherwise damaged so that they are fit only for remanufacture; dutiable as scrap steel ... ..	122	Ton 4 00
<i>Picture frames</i> , wooden, hand carved and gilded; dutiable as manufactures of wood ... ..	208	35 % <i>ad val.</i>

*Importations of books by mail*.—While importations of merchandise generally through the mails are prohibited and liable to seizure, unless under the provisions of Parcel Post Conventions made by the United States with certain foreign countries, books are made an exception to this rule, and may be so imported under

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—continued.**

the Universal Postal Union Convention.—No duty is leviable on any book valued at less than 1 dollar.

*Drawnwork.*—Certain linen articles, such as doilies, bureau covers, table squares, and articles of a similar character, hem-stitched and containing certain ornamental effects in various portions of the squares, produced by drawing out certain of the warp or filling threads and by the introduction of different and independent threads, producing openwork effects, have been held to be dutiable under paragraph 346 of the Tariff at the rate of 35 per cent. *ad valorem*. This decision applies only to the cheaper and ordinary classes of drawnwork. The more elaborate classes of drawnwork clearly made in imitation of lace are to be assessed for duty under paragraph 339, as heretofore, at the rate of 60 per cent. *ad valorem*.

*American steel re-imported in the form of scrap.*—Merchandise exported from the United States to Canada in the form of hoop or band steel, and returned to the United States as scrap steel, is free of duty as articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United States, under paragraph 483 of the Tariff, without the production of a clearance certificate from the United States, on satisfactory proof of the identity of the articles, it being impracticable or impossible to produce such certificate from the nature of the importation. When, however, the importer has made application for allowance of drawback on any portion of such importation, no refund of duties will be allowed.

*Cold-rolled steel strips,* the only polish or brightening on the surface of which has been that incidentally acquired in the process of cold rolling, are not subject to the additional duty of 1 cent per pound imposed by paragraph 141 of the Tariff on such strips when brightened or polished.

*Gramophone points.*—Steel points or pins for gramophones or talking machines are not needles in the tariff sense, but are dutiable under paragraph 137, at various rates according to gauge.

*Unbleached cloth with bleached figures.*—Figured cotton cloth, of which the foundation is composed of unbleached threads and the figures of bleached threads, the figures consisting of dots covering about one-eighth of the surface of the fabric, is dutiable as "unbleached" and not "bleached" cotton cloth.

*Needle books and cases,* with the needles contained therein, are dealt in commercially as entireties, and are dutiable according to the component material of chief value. When the needles exceed the cases in value the articles are dutiable as manufactured articles of metal under paragraph 193 at the rate of 45 per cent. *ad valorem*. When the cases are worth more than the needles the articles are dutiable as manufactures of the material of which the cases are composed.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

*Tea canisters.*—The decision reported in the "Journal" for the 12th May, 1904, has been affirmed on appeal, and has been acquiesced in by the Treasury Department. The decision was to the effect that certain tea canisters made almost entirely of metal, even though capable of being used again after the tea had been removed, were not "unusual coverings" within the meaning of the Customs Administrative Act, and were therefore entitled to free entry when imported full.

"Sea stores" of a ship include stores taken on board for the health and sustenance of the crew and passengers, as distinguished from "ship stores," such as tackle and furniture of the ship.

"Sea Stores,"  
"Ship Stores,"  
and "Coal Stores"  
—Transfer of  
Coal from Ship  
to Ship in Port.

"Sea stores" and the legitimate equipment of vessels belonging to regular lines plying between foreign ports and the United States may be transferred from one vessel to another vessel of the same owner without payment of duties only where such vessels are delayed in port for any cause.

In accordance with paragraph 523 of the Tariff, "coal stores" of American vessels are not dutiable so long as they are kept on board; but such stores are prohibited to be unloaded even for the purpose of transference to another vessel of the same line without paying duty.

### MEXICO.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 553 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 21st September last, relating to the temporary reduction of the Mexican import duty on wheat to 1 peso 50 cts. per 100 kilogs. (gross weight), the Board of Trade are now informed, through the Foreign Office, that a Presidential Decree has been issued maintaining the reduced duty in force until the 30th June, 1906.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" for the 16th December contains a Presidential Decree, which comes into force on the 15th February next, modifying the Mexican Customs Tariff, as follows:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Present Duty.	New Duty.
95	Coffee in the berry, husked or not	Pesos. Cts.	Pesos. Cts.
96 (a)	Barley prepared for the manufacture of beer (malt) ... ..	Free.	Kilog. net 0 10
328	Cotton thread in balls or skeins	Not specified.	" gross 0 05
328 (a)	Cotton thread on reels ... ..	Kilog. net 1 40	No change.
		" " 1 40	1,000 metres 0 07

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**COLOMBIA.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Colombian Decree (No. 1240) of the 21st October last, relative to import duties in that country. The following is the substance of the principal provisions of this Decree:—

*Article 1.*—In the Custom-houses of Arauca, Barranquilla, Buenaventura, Cartagena, Orocué, Riohacha and Santa Marta, import duties shall be levied in conformity with the Tariff of the 27th January, 1905.\* [Importations through these Custom-houses were formerly subject to various rebates.]

Merchandise imported through the Custom-house of Buenaventura will be entitled to a rebate of 25 per cent. in accordance with the Decree of the 17th February, 1905.

*Article 2.*—In the Custom-houses of Ipiales and Tumaco import duties will be levied in accordance with Law 63 of 1903,† without any rebate whatever.

Baize (*bayetas*) and grey domestics (*lienços*) introduced through the inland port (*puerto seco*) of Ipiales will be entitled to a rebate of 50 per cent. on the import duties chargeable.

*Article 3.*—Goods introduced through the ports of Tumaco and Ipiales, and paying only the duties fixed by Law 63 of 1903, cannot be re-exported or transmitted to Buenaventura or intermediate places without paying duties at the latter Custom-house as if they were being imported for the first time.

*Article 4.*—Merchandise introduced through the Custom-house of Cucuta and destined for the inland provinces of the Department of Santander or other places in the remaining Departments of the Republic, will pay import duties in accordance with the Tariff of the 27th January, 1905.

Law 63 of 1903 is, therefore, only applicable to merchandise imported for consumption in the provinces of Cucuta and Pamplona.

*Article 5.*—Persons importing merchandise must state, in the manifest, the destination of the same for the purpose of the levying of the duties. No merchandise can be transmitted to the inland provinces of the Department of Santander or to other Departments without a pass issued by the Administrator of the Custom-house, stating that duties have been paid in conformity with the provisions of the first part of the preceding Article.

*Article 6.*—Merchandise manifested for consumption in the Provinces of Cucuta and Pamplona can only be transmitted to other parts of the Republic by paying the difference between the two Tariffs.

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\* See "Board of Trade Journal" for 20th April, 1905, and following issues.

† See "Board of Trade Journal" for 28th January, 1904, and following issues.

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### COLOMBIA—continued.

*Article 9* modifies the rates of import duty on certain goods, as shown in the statement at p. 461 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 7th September, 1905. The following are the modifications and additions introduced into the statement referred to:—

	Duty fixed by the present Decree.†
	<i>Kilog. (gross).</i> Dols. (gold).‡
Wheat in grain* ... ..	0 01
Chlorate of potash ... ..	0 01
Dry wines, white or dark, in pipes, barrels, demi-johns, or bottles, containing over 17 centesimal degrees of alcohol ... ..	0 20
Sweet wines in pipes, barrels, demi-johns, or bottles ... ..	0 03
Red wines in pipes, barrels, or demi-johns ... ..	0 02
Red wines in bottles ... ..	0 03
Gypsum in powder ... ..	0 01

*Article 10.*—Chlorate of potash for mines is added to the list of articles exempted from the surtax of 70 per cent. under Article 5 of the Law of 27th January, 1905.

*Article 15.*—Payment of import duties must be in cash and metallic currency or its equivalent in national bills of forced currency or other money of legal tender.

*Article 16.*—When the importer shall so request, payment of duties may be made in drafts up to fifteen days' sight, subject to the giving of bond as a guarantee against any loss caused by delay in the payment of duties.

*Articles 17–23.*—These Articles deal with the method of collecting import duties when payment is made by drafts.

The complete translation of this Decree may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 462 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 7th September last, relating to the temporary reduction of the Colombian import duties on flour, barley, wheat, rice, and lard imported through certain ports, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Presidential Decree (No. 1309) of 8th November last, re-establishing the full duties fixed by the Tariff of 27th January, 1905\*\* on the articles in question.

\* Flour is not dutiable at the rate of 1 ct. per kilog.

† Except as regards chlorate of potash for mines, all these duties require to be increased by a surtax of 70 per cent.

‡ Colombian gold dollar=5s.

\*\* See "Board of Trade Journal" for 20th April, 1905, and following issues.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### MAURITIUS.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Collector of Customs at Port Louis, a copy of an Ordinance (No. 32 of 1905) which was assented to by the Governor of Mauritius on 7th December, 1905.

#### Quarantine Regulations.

The Ordinance provides for quarantine regulations to be observed respecting vessels arriving at Mauritius with cases of contagious or infectious diseases on board, and also for the disinfection of cargo or other contaminated articles.

Regulations are also laid down respecting the mooring of vessels in the harbour, in consequence of stress of weather, before being admitted to pratique by the Health Officer.

The Ordinance under notice may be seen by persons interested on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### GERMANY.

The British Vice-Consul at Hamburg (Mr. F. Oliver) has forwarded the following return of sea-going ships of all nations (including coasting vessels) which entered and cleared at Hamburg in the year 1905 as compared with the preceding three years:—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number of Ships.	Registered Tonnage.	Number of Ships.	Registered Tonnage.
1902 ... ..	13,297	8,727,294	13,296	8,704,869
1903 ... ..	14,028	9,155,926	14,073	9,221,261
1904 ... ..	14,843	9,610,794	14,816	9,610,479
1905 ... ..	15,118	10,382,000	15,164	10,380,000

It may be observed that amongst the sea-going vessels entering Hamburg last year, 10,233 vessels of together 9,437,000 tons register were steamers, and 4,885 vessels of together 945,000 tons register were sailing vessels.

### FRANCE.

The "Journal Officiel" publishes a decree by which the tax of 14 centimes per metric ton of merchandise loaded or unloaded, levied on vessels frequenting the port of Nice, is reduced to 9 centimes per metric ton.

#### Reduction of Tonnage Tax at Nice.

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*Shipping and Transport.*


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**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th January contains a Royal Order habilitating the place called Torre Garcíá, in the province of Almeria, as a port for the unloading of the materials needed for working a tunny fishery, the concession for which has been granted to Don Bartolomé Pérez Orts, and for shipping the fish caught.

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**ITALY-SPAIN (CANARY ISLANDS).**


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The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) states that a new steamship service is to be inaugurated in February between Genoa and the Canary Islands, touching at Teneriffe and Las Palmas. In order to stimulate the export trade between Italy and these islands, samples not exceeding 5 kilogs. in weight will be carried free, and commercial travellers will enjoy a reduction of 25 per cent. on the ordinary fares.

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**


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H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. B. Spence) reports that a new law, which was published on the 24th December last, in the "Bulletin of the Laws of the Empire," retains in force, until the question can be definitely regulated (which will be as soon as possible), the State bounties and subventions granted to Austro-Hungarian shipping by the Law of 27th December, 1893, and which would otherwise have come to an end.

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**COLOMBIA.**


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A despatch has been received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Bogotá (Mr. S. S. Dickson) reporting further regarding the concessions for railways (see "Board of Trade Journal," 19th October, 1905, p. 127, and 26th October, 1905, p. 152) in the Magdalena Valley, which, if successfully brought to completion, will practically connect the Atlantic coast with Bogotá and Medellín, the two important commercial centres in the interior of Colombia. It is announced that an American company has been formed for the construction of a railway joining Buenaventura, the main Pacific port of Colombia, with the town of Palmira, in the Department of the Cauca. The railway is then to be continued from Palmira to Girardot, on the Upper Magdalena river, thus connecting with the British railway between Girardot and the capital.

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## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### GERMANY—SILESIA.

The "Neue Hamburgische Börsen-Halle" publishes the following statistics of the production of pig-iron in Upper Silesia, issued by the Association of Iron and Steel Producers of Germany (Eastern Group):—

—							1904.	1905.
							Metric tons.	Metric tons.
Foundry pig	...	...	...	...	...	...	79,229	94,350
Bessemer pig	...	...	...	...	...	...	54,438	47,642
Thomas pig	...	...	...	...	...	...	241,669	258,574
Steel and spiegel iron	...	...	...	...	...	...	83,761	98,112
Puddle iron	...	...	...	...	...	...	364,910	362,334
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	824,007	861,012

The "Börsen-Halle" states also that the production of zinc in Upper Silesia amounted in 1905 to 129,916 tons, as compared with 126,493 tons in 1904.

### GERMANY—KIAO-CHOW.

According to a report by the French Vice-Consul in Chefoo, the total production in 1904 of the coal mines in Kiao-Chow worked by the Bergban Gesellschaft amounted to 90,000 tons. None of this was exported, the whole having been absorbed by the Lisenbahn Gesellschaft, the arsenal and the warships, or sold to private individuals in the settlement. Active measures are now being taken to exploit a coal deposit near the railway station at Tchang-lo-yen, which is said to cover a very wide area. A shaft 400 metres deep is being sunk, and it is estimated that when the mine is fully exploited the daily production will amount to 1,500 tons. Borings for coal are also being made at Tse-tch'o'en, and houses are being erected for the accommodation of several families of German miners.

### ITALY.

"In the same way that Messrs. Armstrong found it advisable to establish large works at Pozzuoli, and more recently still to carry out an amalgamation with the Italian shipbuilding firm, Messrs. Ansaldo of Sampierdarena and Genoa," it is reported by the British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) that "an Anglo-Italian engineering

**Formation of  
Anglo-Italian  
Engineering  
Combine.**

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*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

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combine" to be styled "Vickers-Terni" has now been formed, whose principal works, for the manufacture of ordnance, ammunition, and all the appurtenances and requisites of war ships, will be at Spezia. The company, whose capital is 400,000*l.*, has already acquired the necessary ground at Mellara (suburb of Spezia) for the works. Among the Italian directors are Messrs. G. Orlando (Vice-Chairman), of Orlando Brothers, the well-known ship-building firm of Leghorn, and A. Odero, of Messrs. Odero, of Sestri Ponente (shipbuilders).

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**ROUMANIA.**

With reference to the notice on p. 126 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" respecting a proposed Roumanian Law regulating petroleum concessions on State lands, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Bucharest (Mr. H. E. Browne) has forwarded a copy of the Law which has now been voted by both Senate and Chamber. The importance of this new Law consists in the fact that it does away with all future possibility of the monopolising by one company of the State Petroleum Lands.

The text of the Law (in French) may be seen by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA.**

The "Railroad Gazette" has compiled statistics of the output of railway cars in the United States and Canada in 1905 from returns received from all the manufacturers, with the exception of one of the smaller car works, whose output has been estimated. The returns show that 168,006 cars were constructed in 1905, including cars for use on subway and elevated railways, but exclusive of street and inter-urban electric cars. These figures do not include cars built by railways in their own works, of which an exceptionally large number were built last year. Of the above total 165,455 cars were for goods and 2,551 for passenger service; 162,701 for domestic use, and 5,305 for export. This is the largest output of cars yet recorded for any one year.

Returns received by the "Gazette" from all the locomotive builders in the United States and Canada show that 5,491 new locomotives were built in 1905, against 3,441 in 1904. This total does not include locomotives built by railways in their own works, nor does it include orders given for repairs or rebuilding. Of the total number of locomotives built 140 were electric locomotives, against 95 electric locomotives built in 1904. The total output of locomotives in 1905 was the largest yet recorded.

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## YARNS AND TEXTILES.

### ZANZIBAR.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Agent and Consul-General at Zanzibar (Mr. B. S. Cave, C.B.), samples of Holland-printed "kangas" which are described as follows :—

"These Holland-printed kangas are printed in pieces consisting of five cloths measuring 68 ins. by 48 ins. each; four pieces go to one corj, and the prices attached to the samples are per corj. They are packed in bales containing 100 pieces."

They are stated to be imported by French and German houses, and are supposed to be imported in the first instance from Holland and then reshipped from France or Germany as of local manufacture, "thereby obtaining a rebate of freight which their governments are reputed to allow on exports of local products."

Samples have also been received from Zanzibar of the unbleached cloth known as "Americani," which is imported from America, together with a sample of the Italian imitation, referred to in the Report on the Uganda Protectorate for the year ending 31st March, 1904 [cd. 2,250/1904]. This is manufactured in pieces of 30 yds., and sold, the former at 6 rupees (8s.) and the latter at 5 rupees (6s. 8d.) apiece.

All the above samples may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch have received from H.M. Consul at Beira (Mr. R. C. F. Maughan) samples of printed cotton goods, which are largely imported by Dutch and German firms in Beira. These goods are conveyed to the coast of East Africa by the ships of the latter, being first nationalised at Lisbon, from which process they obtain a Customs rebate of 20 per cent. As will be seen, they are of extraordinary lightness, and of a pattern which their manufacturers have taken pains to ascertain is acceptable to the native for whom it is intended. The weight advantage will be understood when it is explained that the duty charged is 380 reis (1s. 8½d.) per 1,000 grammes.

The samples referred to may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 20th January, 1906, were as follows:—

Wheat	...	...	...	28s.	5d.
Barley	...	...	...	24s.	11d.
Oats	...	...	...	18s.	4d.

For further particulars see p. 180.

A statement is published on p. 181, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 20th January, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

#### Imports of Agricultural Produce.

### ITALY.

Referring to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th December, p. 605, respecting the formation of an association for the protection of the olive oil trade in Italy, the "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) announces that the Italian Government has appointed a Commission to draw up legislation with a view to preventing frauds in the sale of olive oil.

#### Commission on Means of Preventing Fraud in Sale of Olive Oil.

### ITALY—ERYTHREA.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" states that the President of the Council of Public Works in Italy has left for Erythrea, with a view to drawing up a scheme of irrigation works in that colony. It is hoped that the execution of these works will stimulate the agricultural development of Erythrea, and that cotton growing, more especially, will be carried on extensively.

#### Proposed Irrigation Works.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

According to the Boston "Commercial Bulletin," the total quantity of domestic wool remaining for sale in the United States at the close of 1905 amounted to 72,461,443 lbs., as compared with a total of 41,873,811 lbs. left over in 1904. The supply of foreign wool also shows an increase of nearly 11,000,000 lbs., bringing the total supply of all kinds of wool unsold in the United States in 1905 to 96,875,443 lbs., as against 53,435,811 lbs. carried over in 1904.

The following figures compiled by the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, gives the wool production of the United States in the last five years:—

Years.		Lbs.	Years.		Lbs.
1901	...	316,497,533	1903	...	298,846,848
1902	...	324,107,462	1904	...	295,893,929
1905	...	...	...	...	299,309,853

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 18th January, 1906, **Cotton Statistics.** was 127,631, and the number imported during the three weeks ended the 18th January was 446,211 (including 90 bales British West Indian and 21 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 18th January, 1906, 8,593 bales, and for the three weeks, 23,509.

For further details see p. 180.

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### NEW ZEALAND.

The "New Zealand Gazette" of 23rd November contains the text of a Proclamation by the Governor, providing for a census of the population of the country to be taken on the 30th April, 1906. **Forthcoming Census.**

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### TRANSCAAL.

The "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 15th December contains the text of a Government Notice (No. 1,084 of 1905) embodying rules framed by the judges of the Supreme Court respecting the authentication of the signatures to any document executed out of the Colony and intended for use in the Colony. **Authentication of Signatures to Documents.**

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### ALGERIA.

The French "Journal Officiel" contains the text of a Decree authorising a census of the population of Algeria to be taken on the 4th March next. **Forthcoming Census.**

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### ITALY.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) states that the Italian Minister of Finance has initiated a prize competition among the employees of the State Tobacco Factories for the manufacture of a new brand of cigars, containing not less than 80 per cent. of native tobacco and superior in shape and flavour to existing brands. The aim of this measure is to stimulate the production of native tobacco. It is hoped that ultimately the material for State factories will be drawn almost entirely from home sources.

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*Miscellaneous.*

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**OMAN.**

The French Consul at Mascat announces that a contract was signed on 19th November last between Mr. Michael J. Hatinoglou, a Greek subject representing the Sponge Exploration Syndicate, Limited, and the Sultan of Mascat, for the concession of the sponge fisheries on the coast of Oman. The Consul adds that no enterprise of this nature has yet been attempted, and it is impossible to estimate the results thereof.

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**NICARAGUA.**

The German Consulate in San José de Costa Rica reports that the Nicaraguan Government has granted a concession for fifty years to an American named Dr. L. S. Anderson, for the utilisation of the timber resources in the north-western district of the Republic. The concession comprises the exploitation of the pine forests over an area bounded on the north by Honduras, on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by lat. 13 deg. 35 N., and on the west by long. 84 deg. 52 W. For the transport of the timber, the concessionnaire may utilise all suitable rivers and waterways, and put into operation the necessary craft. He may build roads and railways, erect saw-mills, distilleries, creosoting works, and also, in particular, establish factories of all kinds for wood-working.

Dr. Anderson has the further right of importing duty-free, saws, planes, wood-working machinery and parts, benzine, lubricating oils, &c., dyes, cranes, steam boats, benzine boats, casks, vats, horses, mules, oxen, locomotives, waggon, rails, &c., together with articles of food and clothing for persons engaged in the work.

No trading in the goods imported will be permitted, and the concessionnaire must keep the Customs Office, "El Bluff," informed as to the goods he orders. Dr. Anderson is also allowed to export his products duty-free.

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**BRAZIL.**

The "Diario Oficial" of 31st December publishes the text of the Budget expenditure for 1906, approved by Congress on 30th December. The principal items of interest are summarised below:—

**Budget:**  
**Probable requirements for 1906.**  
The Ministry of Justice and Home Affairs is authorised to expend 500,000 milreis on the purchase of disinfecting apparatus and barges for use in ports, more especially at Pernambuco, Maranhão, Alagoas, Amazonas and Paraná; 1,000,000 milreis on the commencement of the erection of a building for the National Congress, including the purchase of the necessary land; and

*Miscellaneous.*

1,700,000 milreis on the erection of various other Government buildings and on repairs to existing buildings.

The Ministry of Marine is authorised to expend 30,000 milreis on meteorological apparatus; 180,000 milreis on the purchase and erection of lighthouses; to engage for the term of three years, at the annual salary of 6,000 milreis, a first-rate oculist to serve in the Naval Hospital; to expend 20,000 milreis on the purchase of surgical instruments for the Naval Hospital; 500,000 milreis on life-saving apparatus; and 670,000 milreis on the construction of submarines of national invention.

The Ministry of War is authorised to expend 300,000 milreis on the re-construction of the building in which that Ministry is housed; and 50,000 milreis on the completion of the South Luiz de Caceres telegraph line.

The Ministry of Industry, Ways of Communication and Public Works is authorised to expend 400,000 milreis on improving the telegraph and telephone systems of Rio de Janeiro; 340,000 milreis on the erection of telegraph lines in various States; 660,000 milreis on measures for fostering agriculture, including the distribution of stock cattle, plants and seeds to agriculturists, the establishment of an agricultural institute, the laying out of experimental farms, &c.; 250,000 milreis on developing the coal output of the country, with a view to its increased use on the Central Railway of Brazil, and by other railway companies and Government departments; to take measures for the substitution of petroleum for spirit as an illuminating medium by State and other railways, and for the disuse of wood as fuel on those railways; to raise loans for improving the supply of drinking water to Rio de Janeiro; and to take measures for improving the ports of Rio Grande do Sul and Cabo Frio.

The President is authorised to grant special privileges, including the duty-free importation of plant, to enterprises established for the production of electricity by means of water power.

**JAPAN.**

The report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce for November states that the principal match factories in  
**Match Combine.** Osaka and Kobe have decided to amalgamate, and have elected a committee to make the necessary arrangements in order to carry out the scheme. The match factories in Osaka number 51, and the value of their annual output is about 4,000,000 yen, while those in Kobe are 60 in number, with an output of the value of 1,500,000 yen.

In connection with the foregoing, it is of interest to note that according to the "Japan Herald" of 15th December the Government is considering the establishment of a match monopoly.

1 yen = 2s. 0½d.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 3 Weeks ended 18th January, 1906 :—

	Week ended 18th Jan., 1906.	3 Weeks ended 18th Jan., 1906.	Week ended 18th Jan., 1906.	3 Weeks ended 18th Jan., 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	107,454	362,761	2,301	7,708
Brazilian ... ..	3,140	29,280	100	400
East Indian ... ..	3,000	9,167	1,757	4,317
Egyptian ... ..	13,331	40,314	4,132	10,594
Miscellaneous ... ..	706	4,689*	303	490
Total ... ..	127,631	446,211	8,593	23,509

\* Including 90 bales British West Indian and 21 bales British West African.

### Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 20th January, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

		Average Price.					
		Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 20th January, 1906	...	28	5	24	11	18	4
Corresponding week in—							
1899	...	26	7	27	9	17	0
1900	...	25	10	25	9	16	4
1901	...	26	10	25	6	17	6
1902	...	27	7	26	7	20	3
1903	...	25	0	24	1	16.	11
1904	...	27	3	22	4	15	11
1905	...	30	5	25	0	16	5

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

## Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 20th January, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 20th Jan., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	12,834	10,537
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	—	6,801
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	464	202
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	79,004	90,005
Mutton ... ..	"	67,231	57,657
Pork ... ..	"	14,480	18,473
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	102,667	115,322
Beef ... ..	"	1,948	2,008
Hams ... ..	"	18,905	20,268
Pork ... ..	"	3,424	4,927
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	10,611	10,878
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	16,104	14,338
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	104,840	84,246
Margarine ... ..	"	19,562	18,936
Cheese ... ..	"	28,434	38,885
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	4	—
" cream ... ..	"	234	60
" condensed ... ..	"	14,665	13,935
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	17	37
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hndr.	275,205	265,218
Poultry ... ..	Value £	38,901	61,239
Game ... ..	"	1,775	3,660
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	9,664	6,125
Lard ... ..	"	44,597	33,292
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,241,700	1,439,100
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	483,500	131,700
Barley ... ..	"	181,900	305,500
Oats ... ..	"	168,400	268,300
Peas ... ..	"	25,940	76,590
Beans ... ..	"	2,210	5,880
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	841,200	934,400
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	61,894	100,871
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	47	8
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	117,977	30,521
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	369	126
Lemons ... ..	"	28,358	14,290
Oranges ... ..	"	149,105	231,254
Pears ... ..	"	1,684	654
Plums ... ..	"	11	4
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	3,017	4,156
Hay... ..	Tons.	1,470	1,715
Straw ... ..	"	1,576	2,406
Moss Litter ... ..	"	1,543	1,578
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	7,931	2,458
Locust Beans ... ..	"	13,980	41,432
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	163,191	120,527
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	9,661	45,674
Tomatoes ... ..	"	15,960	7,252
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	7,804	6,873
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>	Cwts.	5,701	3,699
Preserved by canning... ..	"	11,295	4,358

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 1d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the January issue:—State of the Labour Market in December; Employment in 1905; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1905; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1904; and Wages and Hours of Labour in Hungary.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

#### No. 3,522. Trade of Cuba, 1904 (Supplementary).

Analysis of import trade, showing chief increases to have been in provisions and liquors, textile goods, metals and machinery, and live stock.

Value of import and export trade with United Kingdom by groups of articles.

Report by the British Vice-Consul at Matanzas.

Sugar and tobacco cultivation.

Returns of shipping: noticeable decrease in tonnage entered with cargo direct from the United Kingdom.

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*Government Publications.*

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**No. 3,523. German Trade with India.**

Increase during the past decade of 50 per cent. in imports from India into Germany, and of 100 per cent. in exports from Germany to India.

Comparative statistics of the

principal articles comprised in this interchange, with notes on same.

Returns of direct shipping between Germany and India.

**No. 3,524. Finances of the Netherlands Indies, 1905-06.**

Results of the 1903 and 1904 estimates. Increased proceeds from coffee and opium balanced by a disappointing revenue from the Banka tin and the Billiton mines.

Table showing proposed extraordinary expenditure in 1906 on public works.

Proposed new sugar tax and tariff revision.

**No. 3,525. Trade of Denmark, 1904 (Supplementary).**

Tables of imports and exports. Large increase in imports of raw materials and manufactured goods.

Danish shipping trade: in-

crease of tonnage of steamers and of sailing vessels.

Returns of shipping between Danish and foreign ports.

**No. 3,526. Trade of Bavaria, 1904 and part 1905.**

Slight improvement of trade and industry.

Influx of capital from North Germany.

Unfavourable year for brewing industry owing to increased competition and enhanced cost of raw materials.

Comparative prices of meat

and live cattle in Munich in September, 1902-5.

Depression in the glass industry, owing to loss of markets, and in the leather industry, owing to high hide prices.

Notes on progress of the piano, cement and textile industries, &c.

**No. 3,527. Finances of the Netherlands, 1904-5 and 1905-6.**

Results of the financial years 1902, 1903, and 1904, showing the various causes of improvement.

Summary of results of Netherlands finances since 1892.

Estimates for 1905 showing an increase in estimate of

revenue as compared with that of the previous year of 141,758*l.*, but a probable deficit of 738,953*l.* Estimates for 1906 showing a probable deficit of 942,660*l.*

Particulars of extraordinary expenditure.

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*Government Publications.*

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**OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Annual Report on the Distribution of Grants for Agricultural Education and Research in the year 1904-05, &c., &c. [Cd. 2,808.] Price 11d.*

This publication contains, besides a general report on the grants for agricultural education and research, a list of grants awarded during the year 1904-5; reports on 17 institutions receiving grants; a report on education in rural districts, with special reference to school gardens; a summary of the agricultural instruction provided by County Councils in England and Wales in the year 1904-5; and a statement showing the expenditure of County Councils in England and Wales in the years 1903-4 and 1904-5.

*Annual Report of Proceedings under Acts relating to Sea Fisheries for the year 1904. [Cd. 2,671.] Price 7d.*

This report, which is issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, contains statistics of the fishing industry of England and Wales for the year 1904. Information with regard to the fisheries of certain foreign countries and Canada is also included.

*The Journal of the Board of Agriculture.*

This publication contains information as to the position of agriculture at home and abroad, crop prospects in foreign countries, and further particulars obtained from foreign and colonial reports, Diplomatic and Consular Despatches, and other sources of intelligence accessible to the department; together with notes on dairying, fruit farming, poultry rearing, and other rural industries. Short descriptions of noxious insects and fungi, with appropriate remedies; information relating to wild birds useful to agriculture; statements of the quantities and values of agricultural produce imported and exported; and records of the current prices of grain, meat, dairy products, fruit, and vegetables, are given in each number.

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*Government Publications.***LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.**

The following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
<b>EUROPE—</b>					
<b>Austria-Hungary:</b>			3383	Nice ... .. 1904	½d.
3399	Austria-Hungary ... 1904	1½d.	3389	Pondicherry & Karikal ..	1d.
3486	Bohemia ... .. "	1d.	3498	Réunion ... .. "	½d.
3343	Finances and General		3493	Society Islands ... .. "	1d.
	Economic Conditions		638	<i>Chemical, Metal and other</i>	
	1900-04	6½d.		<i>Industries of Lyons</i> ...	½d.
3417	Fiume ... .. 1904	1d.	<b>German Empire:</b>		
3328	Trieste ... .. "	1½d.	3402	Baden ... .. 1904	½d.
<b>Belgium:</b>			3526	Bavaria ... 1904, and	1d.
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ... 1904	7½d.		part of 1905	
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904-05	1d.	3342	Chemnitz and Saxony 1904	1d.
3501	" Trade ... 1904	3d.	3451	Dantzic ... .. "	2d.
634	<i>Diamond Industry of</i>		3333	Germany ... .. "	3d.
	<i>Antwerp</i> ... .. "	2d.	3445	" ... .. "	6d.
640	<i>Scheme for the Extension of</i>		3390	" (Supplemen-	
	<i>the Port of Antwerp</i> ...	7d.		<i>tary)</i> ... .. "	2½d.
<b>Bulgaria:</b>			3506	Germany, First half of 1905	3d.
3395	Bulgaria ... .. 1904	1d.	3456	Germany (Finances) ... "	2d.
<b>Denmark:</b>			3519	German Colonies 1903-04	3d.
3324	Denmark (Supplemen-		3523	German Trade with India...	1d.
	<i>tary)</i> ... .. 1903	½d.	3393	Hamburg ... .. 1904	4d.
3392	Denmark ... .. 1904	3½d.	3358	Pomerania ... .. "	2½d.
3525	" (Supplementary) ..	1d.	3485	Prussia (Finances) ... 1905	1d.
3404	Faroe Islands ... .. "	2d.	3511	Württemberg ... .. 1904	1d.
3350	Iceland ... .. 1901-03	1d.	624	<i>Memorandum on German</i>	
<b>France and Colonies:</b>				<i>Cement</i> ... .. "	½d.
3479	Algeria ... .. 1903-04	2d.	630	<i>Technical Instruction in</i>	
3381	Bordeaux ... .. 1904	3d.		<i>Germany: Supplementary</i>	
3330	Brest ... .. "	1½d.		<i>and Miscellaneous</i> ...	4d.
3346	Calais ... .. "	2½d.	636	<i>German Sea Fishing In-</i>	
3440	Cherbourg ... .. "	1½d.		<i>dustry and Trade</i> ...	1½d.
3378	Cochin-China ... .. "	1½d.	642	<i>German paper industry and</i>	
3462	Corsica ... .. "	½d.		<i>export trade</i> ... .. "	1d.
3413	Dunkirk ... .. "	1½d.	<b>Greece:</b>		
3510	France ... 1904 and First		3367	Cyclades ... .. 1904	1d.
	8 months of 1905	1½d.	3516	Greece: Finances ... 1905	2d.
3473	French Budget ... 1905	2d.	3474	Ionian Islands... .. 1904	2d.
3368	Havre ... .. 1904	3½d.	3369	Morea, Ætolia and	
3513	Ivory Coast ... .. "	1½d.		Acarnania ... .. "	1d.
3409	Lyons, St. Etienne and		3370	Piræus ... .. "	1½d.
	Grenoble ... .. "	1d.	3361	Thessaly ... .. "	1½d.
3509	Madagascar ... .. "	½d.	<b>Italy:</b>		
3482	Marseilles ... .. "	2d.	3438	Ancona... .. 1904	½d.
3466	Martinique ... .. "	1d.	3427	Brindisi and Province	
3336	Nantes ... .. "	1d.		of Lecce ... .. "	2d.
3431	New Caledonia 1903-04	1½d.	3416	Central Italy ... .. "	1½d.
			3446	Genoa ... .. "	3d.
			3320	Italy ... .. 1903	1½d.

## Government Publications.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
3338	Italy—Finances ... 1904	1½d.	3411	Galicia, The Asturias and Leon ... ..	1½d.
3487	Leghorn ... ..	1½d.	3458	Malaga ... ..	3d.
3454	Lombardy ... ..	3d.		<b>Sweden:</b>	
3396	Sicily ... ..	3d.	3450	Gothenburg ... .. 1904	2½d.
3323	South Italy ... ..	1½d.	3412	Stockholm and Eastern Coast ... ..	2½d.
3496	South Italy (Supplementary) ... ..	2d.		<b>Switzerland:</b>	
3340	Venice ... .. 1903-04	1½d.	3520	Trade in 1904 and the new Swiss Customs Tariff ...	2½d.
632	<i>Silk Trade and Yield of Cocoons in 1904</i> ... ..	1d.		<b>Turkey:</b>	
633	<i>Mineral Wealth of the Provinces of Siena and Grosseto</i> ... ..	1d.	3363	Aleppo and Adana ... 1904	1½d.
	<b>Netherlands and Colonies:</b>		3477	Baghdad ... ..	1d.
3331	Amsterdam ... .. 1904	1d.	3459	Beirut and Coast of Syria ... ..	1d.
3428	Curaçoa ... .. 1902-04	2d.	3382	Bussorah ... ..	½d.
3463	Dutch Guiana ... .. 1904	1d.	3357	Constantinople ... ..	2d.
3403	Java ... ..	2d.	3494	Crete ... ..	½d.
527	Netherlands Finances 1904-5 and 1905-6	1½d.	3437	Damascus ... ..	1½d.
3524	Netherlands Indies Finances ... .. 1905-6	1d.	3442	Erzeroum ... .. 1904	1d.
3391	Rotterdam ... .. 1904	1½d.	3483	Hedjaz, The ... .. 1900-04	1½d.
	<b>Norway:</b>		3497	Hodeida & Camaran 1902-04	1½d.
3425	Norway ... .. 1904	½d.	3410	Palestine ... .. 1900-04	1½d.
	<b>Portugal and Colonies:</b>		3430	Salonica ... ..	1½d.
3478	Angola ... .. 1904	½d.	3467	Smyrna ... ..	2d.
3536	Azores ... .. 1897-1904	½d.	3359	Trebizond ... ..	3½d.
3422	Beira ... .. 1904	1½d.	3488	Tripoli ... .. 1903-04	1½d.
3518	Goa ... .. 1904-05	1d.		<b>AFRICA—</b>	
3495	Chinde ... ..	1d.	3397	Alexandria ... .. 1904	1½d.
3489	Lourenço Marques ... ..	2½d.	3443	Dar-al-Baida ... ..	2d.
3475	Madeira ... ..	1d.	3375	Pemba ... ..	1d.
3418	North Portugal ... ..	1d.	3448	Port Said and Suez ... ..	1½d.
	<b>Roumania:</b>		3321	Somaliland Protectorate ... .. 1903-04	3d.
3432	Roumania ... .. 1904	2½d.	3322	Tangier and District 1902	1½d.
	<b>Russia:</b>		3426	" " 1904	1½d.
3366	Batoum ... .. 1904	1½d.	3492	Tunis ... ..	1½d.
3476	Finland ... ..	1d.	3517	Zanzibar ... ..	1d.
3441	Moscow ... ..	1½d.		<b>AMERICA, NORTH—</b>	
3480	Odessa ... ..	3d.		<b>United States of America:</b>	
3351	Poland and Lithuania ..	3d.	3326	Baltimore ... .. 1904	1½d.
3481	Riga ... ..	2d.	3489	Boston ... .. 1904	3d.
3447	Rostov-on-Don ... ..	2d.	3433	California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona ... ..	2½d.
3424	St. Petersburg ... ..	3d.	3349	Chicago ... ..	4d.
3514	Trans-Caucasus, Agriculture ... .. 1905	½d.	3365	Hawaii ... .. 1903-04	1d.
628	<i>Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus</i> ... ..	½d.	3401	New Orleans ... .. 1904	3d.
	<b>Servia:</b>		3353	New York ... ..	2½d.
3329	Servia ... .. 1903	1½d.	3419	Oregon, Washington and Idaho ... .. 1904	2½d.
	<b>Spain:</b>		3398	Philadelphia ... ..	2½d.
3460	Barcelona ... .. 1904	2½d.	3512	Philippine Islands ... ..	7d.
3352	Bilbao ... ..	2d.	3379	Porto Rico ... ..	1½d.
3414	Cadiz ... ..	2d.	3472	Savannah ... ..	2d.
3470	Canary Islands ... ..	2d.	3348	Texas ... ..	2d.
			625	<i>Rice Industry in the United States</i> ... ..	2d.
			626	<i>Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition</i> ...	2½d.

## Government Publications.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
627	<i>United States Railways</i> ...	2½ <i>d.</i>		<b>WEST INDIES—</b>	
631	<i>Coal Industry of the United States, 1903</i> ...	2½ <i>d.</i>	3484	Cuba ...	1 <i>d.</i>
			3522	" (Supplementary) "	2 <i>d.</i>
			3385	Hayti & Santo Domingo "	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>Mexico:</b>			<b>ASIA—</b>	
3332	Mexico ...	2½ <i>d.</i>		<b>China:</b>	
3429	" ...	6 <i>d.</i>	3468	Amoy ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3503	Vera Cruz ...	2½ <i>d.</i>	3344	Canton ...	1 <i>d.</i>
			3373	Chinkiang ...	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>AMERICA, CENTRAL—</b>		3435	Foochow ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3444	Costa Rica ...	1 <i>d.</i>	3386	Hankow ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
3469	Guatemala ...	1½ <i>d.</i>	3471	Ichang ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3334	Honduras: Trade and Agriculture ...	1 <i>d.</i>	3452	Kiukiang ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
3371	Truxillo (Honduras) ...	1½ <i>d.</i>	3372	Kiungchow ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3337	Nicaragua ...	2 <i>d.</i>	3354	Newchwang ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
			3505	Ningpo ...	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>		3421	Pakhoi ...	½ <i>d.</i>
	<b>Argentina:</b>		3455	Swatow ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3434	Argentina—Finances and Trade, 1904 & part of 1905	1½ <i>d.</i>	3335	Teng Yueh ...	½ <i>d.</i>
3347	Buenos Ayres ...	1½ <i>d.</i>	3449	Wuchow ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
3362	Rosario ...	1 <i>d.</i>	3364	Wuhu ...	1 <i>d.</i>
639	<i>Quebracho and Cotton in the Argentine Chaco</i> ...	1 <i>d.</i>	629	<i>Cotton Mills of China</i> ...	2 <i>d.</i>
			641	<i>Land Taxation in the Province of Honan</i> ...	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>Bolivia:</b>			<b>Japan:</b>	
3388	Bolivia ...	2½ <i>d.</i>	3341	Hakodate ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
			3377	Japan ...	2½ <i>d.</i>
	<b>Brazil:</b>		3387	Kobe and Osaka ...	5½ <i>d.</i>
3436	Pará ...	1 <i>d.</i>	3457	Nagasaki ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3453	Porto Alegre ...	1½ <i>d.</i>	3405	North Formosa ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
3521	Santos ...	2 <i>d.</i>	3490	Tainan ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
			3502	Yokohama ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
	<b>Chile:</b>		635	<i>Japanese paper-making</i> ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3465	Chile ...	3 <i>d.</i>	637	" <i>tea culture</i> ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3345	Coquimbo ...	½ <i>d.</i>		<b>Korea:</b>	
			3407	Korea ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
	<b>Colombia:</b>			<b>Muskat:</b>	
3423	Barranquilla ...	½ <i>d.</i>	3415	Muskat ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3339	Santa Marta—Trade and Agriculture ...	½ <i>d.</i>		<b>Persia:</b>	
			3360	Arabistan ...	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>Guatemala:</b>		3507	Azerbaijan ...	½ <i>d.</i>
3400	Quezaltenango ...	½ <i>d.</i>	3374	Kerman ...	1 <i>d.</i>
			3420	Kermanshah ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
	<b>Peru:</b>		3376	Khorassan ...	2 <i>d.</i>
3355	Iquitos ...	½ <i>d.</i>	3499	" ...	2½ <i>d.</i>
3491	Peru ...	1½ <i>d.</i>	3408	Persian Gulf ...	4½ <i>d.</i>
			3500	Sistan and Kain ...	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>Uruguay:</b>			<b>Siam:</b>	
3461	Uruguay (Supplementary) ...	½ <i>d.</i>	3504	Bangkok ...	1½ <i>d.</i>
3515	Uruguay Trade and Finances ...	1 <i>d.</i>	3464	Chiengmai ...	1 <i>d.</i>
				<b>PACIFIC ISLANDS—</b>	
3384	Caracas ...	1 <i>d.</i>	3406	Friendly Islands ...	1 <i>d.</i>
3394	Ciudad Bolivar ...	½ <i>d.</i>	3380	Samoa ...	1 <i>d.</i>

*Government Publications.***Treaty Series.**

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C. :—

No.		Price.
	<b>EUROPE—</b>	
	<b>Austria-Hungary.</b>	
14	Convention between the United Kingdom and Austria-Hungary providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise between the respective Governments ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>France :</b>	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
5	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting Newfoundland and West and Central Africa ...	1d.
6	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France respecting Egypt and Morocco ... ..	$1\frac{1}{2}d.$
7	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France concerning Siam, Madagascar, and the New Hebrides ...	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
9	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting commercial relations between France and India	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
10	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting commercial relations between the British Protectorates of East Africa, Central Africa, and Uganda	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
11	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting commercial relations between the Seychelles Islands ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
12	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting commercial relations with Ceylon ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
27	Agreement between the United Kingdom and France relative to the Arbitral Tribunal contemplated by Article III. of the Convention of 8th April, 1904, respecting Newfoundland ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>Greece :</b>	
23	Declarations between the United Kingdom and Greece with respect to commercial matters ... ..	1d.
	<b>Netherlands :</b>	
19	Convention between the United Kingdom and the Netherlands providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>Norway :</b>	
8	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Norway respecting telegraphic communication between the two countries... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>Portugal :</b>	
26	Parcel Post Agreement between the United Kingdom and Portugal ... ..	1d.

*Government Publications.***Treaty Series—continued.**

No.		Price.
	<b>Russia:</b>	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>Sweden:</b>	
18	Treaty between Great Britain and Sweden and Norway for the marriage of H.R.H. Princess Margaret with H.R.H. Prince Gustavus Adolphus ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>AMERICA, NORTH— Mexico:</b>	
4	Convention between the United Kingdom and Mexico respecting Postal Rates upon letters passing between New Zealand and Mexico ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
21	Accession of Mexico to the Geneva Convention ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>United States of America.</b>	
20	Convention between the United Kingdom and the United States of America respecting extra territorial jurisdiction in Zanzibar ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>WEST INDIES— Cuba:</b>	
1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>ASIA— China:</b>	
22	Convention between the United Kingdom and China respecting the junction of the Chinese and Burmese telegraph lines ... ..	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>Japan:</b>	
13	Convention between the United Kingdom and Japan respecting commercial relations between Japan and India	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
25	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Japan ...	$\frac{1}{2}d.$
	<b>Industrial Property Convention:</b>	
17	Accession of New Zealand to the Additional Act of 14th December, 1900. and accession of Ceylon to the Convention of 1883 as modified by the Additional Act of 1900 ...	$\frac{1}{2}d.$

*Government Publications.***COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.**

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

**Annual.**

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
444	Basutoland... ..	3 <i>d.</i>
445	Leeward Islands ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
446	St. Vincent... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
447	Bermuda ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
448	St. Helena ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
449	Falkland Islands ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>
450	Wei-hai-wei ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
451	Hong Kong... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>
452	Gambia ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
453	Gibraltar ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>
—	New Hebrides ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>
454	Turks and Caicos Islands... ..	1 <i>d.</i>
455	British Honduras ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
456	Seychelles ... ..	3½ <i>d.</i>
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
458	Straits Settlements ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
459	Southern Nigeria ... ..	4½ <i>d.</i>
460	Sierra Leone ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
461	British Solomon Islands ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
462	Malta ... ..	3½ <i>d.</i>
463	Grenada ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
464	St. Vincent ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
465	Gold Coast ... ..	3½ <i>d.</i>
466	Barbados ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
467	Uganda ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
468	Somaliland ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
469	Trinidad and Tobago ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
470	Lagos ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
471	Bahamas ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
472	British Central Africa ... ..	3½ <i>d.</i>
473	Mauritius ... ..	4½ <i>d.</i>
474	Fiji ... ..	2 <i>d.</i>
475	British East Africa Protectorate ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
476	Northern Nigeria ... ..	8 <i>d.</i>
477	British Guiana ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
478	Leeward Islands ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>
480	Basutoland ... ..	3 <i>d.</i>

**Miscellaneous.**

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903-4 ... ..	2½ <i>d.</i>
30	Pitcairn Island. Report by Mr. R. T. Simons ... ..	1 <i>d.</i>
31	Northern Nigeria. Report on Cotton, Gum, and other Economic Products, by Prof. Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*March, 1905.*

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

February 1, 1906.

[No. 479]

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 239.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe- tition with British in ... {	Tientsin 14th Dec., 1905	509
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	Shanghai 5th Oct., 1905  15th June, 1905	10  521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 240.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of steel bull-headed rails and fishplates, as per specification to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

**Steel Rails and Fishplates.**

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### BRITISH INDIA—continued.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Rails and Fishplates," not later than noon on Wednesday, the 7th February. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

The South Indian Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of 21 Locomotives with Tenders (mixed passenger and goods).

**Locomotives and Tenders.**

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 55, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. Tenders, addressed to the Chairman and Directors of the South Indian Railway Company, Limited, marked "Tender for Locomotives," must be left with the Managing Director not later than noon on the 6th February. The Company are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender. A charge of 2*l.*, which will not be returned, will be made for each copy of the specification. The drawings may be inspected at the office of Sir George B. Bruce, 3, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.

The Board of Directors of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of 3,000 gallons of turpentine and 39 tons of red and white lead, as per specifications, which may be seen at the offices of the Company, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W. The charge for each specification is one guinea, which will not be returned. Tenders must be sent in addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Turpentine," or as the case may be, not later than noon on Tuesday, the 13th February. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

**Turpentine and Red and White Lead.**

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Wrought iron; volute and spiral springs; nails and tacks; block tin, tinned sheets, &c.; steel tyres; lorry wheels, axles, &c.; lamp wicks; spark arresters, wire gauze, &c.; signal and fencing wire strand.

**Railway Stores.**

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, London, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned. Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes,

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*

addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Wrought Iron," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 8th February. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

According to a recent report by the German Consul-General at Calcutta, glass bracelets, which are at present  
**Glass Bracelets.** imported exclusively from Austria, form an important article of trade in India, and are bought in large quantities by the natives, who are as a rule too poor to afford gold or silver bracelets. They are made in all possible colours and designs at varying prices. The bracelets are each wrapped in paper, and placed in pairs in small cardboard boxes. A dozen of these boxes are packed in a larger box, and 200 of the latter in a large watertight case.

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**CANADA.**

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The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.** Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A Welsh firm seeking supplies of copper, silver, lead and antimony ores for re-smelting purposes have enquired for addresses of Canadian mines and mine-owners.

A North of England importer desires to communicate with reliable firms in Canada exporting fresh apples.

A London firm make enquiry concerning the trade to be done with Canada in steam motor wagons, stable fittings, staircases, fire-proof doors and general ironwork.

A Canadian now resident in the North of England is desirous of obtaining the representation of a few preserved fruit and meat packers in Canada who are seeking an outlet in Great Britain.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Winnipeg firm are seeking the agency (from the Great Lakes to the Rockies) of British manufacturers of woollen, lisle and cotton underwear and hosiery, leather gloves and bags, linen goods and umbrellas.

A Hamilton (Ontario) firm desire to communicate with English houses in a position to export regular consignments of sheep casings, dry salted, packed in barrels or tierces.

A firm of manufacturers' agents in Montreal desire to be placed in communication with a British house manufacturing electric cotton threads for electrical purposes, as they are in a position to open up considerable trade in this direction.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **CANADA**—*continued.*

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.** **Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained :—

**Home Enquiries.**—A Liverpool firm wish to hear from Canadian shippers desiring to forward consignments of hay.

Enquiry is made as to the production of magnesite in Canada and for the addresses of shippers, if any, of the mineral.

A firm manufacturing soft soaps of all kinds ask to be placed in correspondence with Canadian buyers of this article.

A firm of builders' and contractors' merchants ask for the addresses of Canadian manufacturers of doors and mouldings wishing to develop export trade.

A company manufacturing valves and safety boiler mountings are prepared to appoint suitable Canadian resident agents.

A firm manufacturing split sheep skins and chamois leather wish to do business in Canada, and ask to be placed in communication with first class importers of these articles.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

According to a recent report by the United States Consul at Chatham, Ontario, the scheme of railway construction in Canada, which will require from three to five years for its completion, is expected to reach a total of 7,344 miles. The mileage and estimated cost of construction are distributed as follows :—Canadian Pacific, 1,844 miles, costing 41,650,000 dols.; Canadian Northern, 1,280 miles, costing 29,000,000 dols.; Grand Trunk Pacific, 3,720 miles, costing 101,600,000 dols.; Grand Trunk, 200 miles, costing 4,000,000 dols.; Northern Pacific, 300 miles, costing 9,000,000 dols. The work projected in the above programme, together with that included in the electric railway projects which are expected to be undertaken, will necessitate about 1,000,000 tons of 80-pound rails in the next four years, and in addition 300,000 to 400,000 tons of iron and steel for car and locomotive building, switches, trestles and bridges. It is further estimated that in the present year Canadian railways will require over 100,000 tons of bridge material for renewing and strengthening bridges, the Grand Trunk Railway alone needing for this purpose 30,000 tons.

*Openings for British Trade.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—TASMANIA.**

A notice in the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" of the 2nd December states that tenders will be received **Cast-iron Pipes.** at the office of the Deputy Postmaster-General, Hobart, up to noon on Thursday, the 1st March, 1906, for the supply and delivery of 105 tons of 3-inch cast-iron pipes, for use in the Postmaster-General's Department in Tasmania.

General conditions, specifications and schedule, and tender forms, can be obtained at the General Post Offices, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, and Perth.

The tender must be on the proper form, and accompanied by a deposit as provided for by clause 5 of the general conditions.

**LAGOS.**

**Agricultural Implements and Machinery.** See notice on p. 209.

**NORWAY.**

Referring to the notice on p. 149 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 25th January, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray), detailed particulars relative to the telegraph material required by the Norwegian State Telegraph Department, from which it appears that it is open to British contractors to tender for the supply of the following:—

66,600 insulators; 88 tons telegraph and telephone wire (iron) of different thicknesses; 15,000 metres steel wire rope (7 and 12 strand); and 1,224 metres cable.

Tenders from British firms should be lodged, by their properly accredited agents, at the offices of the Telegraph Management in Christiania, not later than noon on the 10th February. A copy (in Norwegian) of each of the specifications and conditions, including forms of tender and drawings of insulators, may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Acting Consul-General has forwarded a further notification to the effect that tenders are invited for the supply, to the Norwegian State Railways, of telegraph and telephone materials (including battery zinc, insulators, sal ammoniac, retort carbon, &c.).

Tenders from British firms should be lodged, by their properly accredited agents, at the offices of the State Railway Authorities in Christiania, not later than 3 p.m. on the 9th February. A copy

*Openings for British Trade.***NORWAY**—*continued.*

(in Norwegian) of each of the specifications and conditions, together with drawing of insulator, may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

A further communication has been received from the Acting Consul-General, stating that tenders are invited by the Norwegian Naval Authorities for the delivery at Karljohansvern and Bergen of 2,000 tons and 1,000 tons respectively of Cardiff coal. Tenders must be marked "Anbud paa Kul," and will be received at "Marinens Intendantur, Horten," not later than 1 p.m. on Thursday, the 8th February. The coal is to be delivered during the month of March, and provision is made for a possible reduction in the export duty on coal.

A copy of the advertisement (in Norwegian) referring to this contract, from which it may be seen what description of coal is required, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

NOTE.—Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts, it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch have also received from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray), translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply of water pipes to

the Namsos waterworks, as follows:—

1,000 metres 9-inch (225 mm.),

1,100 " 7 " (175 " ),

100 " 5 " (125 " ),

or, as an alternative,

820 metres 9-inch (225 mm.),

1,000 " 7 " (175 " ),

100 " 5 " (125 " ).

The pipes required are cast-iron socket-pipes, dipped and guaranteed for 20 atmospheres pressure; they are to be delivered, free on quay at Namsos, by the end of June, 1906. Tenders in sealed envelopes, marked "Anbud paa Rör," and addressed "Afdelingsingeniör Astrup, Namsos," will be received up to the 16th February. They will be binding until the 28th February.

The Acting Consul-General adds that he is not aware of any regulations relating to this contract which limit competition to Norwegian firms, or which require tenders to be sent in by agents residing in Norway.

Further particulars (in Norwegian) may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

*Openings for British Trade.***SWEDEN.**

The supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" of 23rd January contains a notice from the Royal Railway Administration adding a clause to the contracts for the delivery of coal and coke from Great Britain for the State Railways, to the effect that in the event of the export duty on coal being reduced or removed during the time of the contract, the price for coal shipped after such removal or reduction shall be correspondingly reduced. Persons tendering must declare their acceptance of this condition.

**Coal Contracts :  
Additional  
Clause.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Gothenburg (Mr. J. Duff) that tenders are invited by the Lund town waterworks for the supply of about 2,000 metres of cast-iron faucet pipes of 305 mm. inside diameter, and not less than 13 mm. thickness of material. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud a vattenledningsrör," will be received at the Waterworks Office up to 2 p.m. on the 22nd February. Tenders should state—

**Cast-Iron  
Water Pipes.**

A. Place of manufacture and price, in kronor per 1,000 kilos., free on railway truck at Lund ;

B. Shortest term of delivery, in weeks, after receipt of order ;

C. Statement of the profile of the pipes and effective length and weight per metre.

Further particulars, conditions, &c., may be obtained from the Waterworks Office at Lund.

H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor) forwards translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Norrköping-Söderköping-Vikbolandet Railway of 2,100 tons of best South

**Steam Coal.**

Yorkshire hard steam-coal. Tenders will be received up to the 20th February by the Managing Director of the Railway, "Count Nils Cronstedt, Norrköping, Sweden." The translation referred to, which gives particulars as to delivery, &c., may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

According to a notice in the Supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" of 23rd January, tenders are invited by the Stockholm Gas Works, for the supply, during the current year, of about 105,000 tons of first-class English gas coal. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud a Gaskol," giving price per English ton c.i.f. Stockholm, and being in accordance with the conditions laid down in the form of contract, will be received up to 2 p.m. on 8th February, by the

**Gas and Steam  
Coal.**

### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### SWEDEN—continued.

Chief Engineer, Ad. Ahlsell, from whom further particulars may be obtained. A copy of the conditions of contract may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Tenders are also invited by the Stockholm Electric Works, for the supply, during the current year, of about 16,000 tons of Newcastle smalls, or similar coal. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud a Angkol," following the conditions laid down in the form of contract, and giving price per English ton, c.i.f., and guaranteed statement as to the amount of ash in the coals, will be received up to 2 p.m. on the 8th February, by the Chief Engineer, Ad. Ahlsell, from whom (at the Gas Works Office) further particulars may be obtained. A copy of the conditions of contract may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar" also contains notices inviting tenders for the following supplies for the use of the regiments mentioned:—

#### **Army Clothing and Supplies.**

1. Supply of certain articles of clothing (drawers, caps, shirts, socks, riding boots, &c.), spurs, brushes, &c., certain textiles, distinction marks, &c., and also for the manufacture of certain articles of clothing from materials supplied from the regimental store. Tenders must be sent to the "Kungl. Skanska Husarregementets Förvaltning, Hälsingborg, by midday on 12th February. Further details may be obtained from the Intendant at the Hussar Barracks, Hälsingborg, and from the storekeeper, O. Sandahl, Herrevadskloster, Ljungbyhed.

2. Supply of textiles, socks, shirts, caps and bootlaces to the Hälsinge regiment. Tenders are to be sent to the "Kungl. Hälsinge Regementes Förvaltning," Gäfle, by midday on 13th February. Farther particulars may be obtained from the Intendant of the Regiment, E. Unger, Gäfle.

3. Supply of textiles, buttons, socks, shirts, and the manufacture of certain articles from materials supplied from the regimental store. Tenders must be sent to the "Kungl. Norrbottens Regementets Förvaltning" by 1 p.m. on 15th February. Further particulars may be obtained from the Intendant of the Royal North Bothnian Regiment, Lulea, or from the Storekeeper, Notviken.

A list of the articles required in each case, with quantities and some general conditions as to tendering, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### SWEDEN—*continued.*

The same publication contains a further notice calling for tenders for certain quantities of steel plates, quicksilver, brass filings, oils, chemicals, and other articles for use in the Ammunition Factory at Karlsborg. Tenders, accompanied by plainly marked samples, must be sent to the "Ammunitionsfabrikens Expedition," Karlsborg, not later than February 14th; the articles tendered for must be marked on the cover. A list of the articles required, with quantities and general particulars as to conditions of tendering, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whilst further information may be obtained from the Chief of the Ammunition Factory, Karlsborg.

### DENMARK.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Aarhus (Mr. G. F. Stark), that tenders are invited by the Aarhus Gasworks for the supply of 14,000 tons of gas coals, in accordance with conditions, copy of which (in Danish) may be inspected at the offices of the Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., or may be obtained from the office of the Gasworks ("Gasværkets Kontor, Aarhus"). Tenders must be sent to the office named by 3 p.m. on the 17th February.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 24th January, contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply of about 2,000 tons of Welsh coal, viz:—about 1,700 tons for delivery in Iceland and about 300 tons for the Faroe Islands. Tenders must be sent in, in writing, to the Naval Dockyard, Copenhagen, by mid-day on 27th February. Further particulars and conditions of tender can be obtained from the Central Office of the Accountant's Department of the Dockyard on any week-day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

### GERMANY.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal) that tenders are invited by the Prussian Railway Authorities for the supply of the following materials:—

- A. 57,100 metres of packing canvas (house flannel).  
 118,500 kilos. rags for cleaning.  
 53,000 flannels for cleaning.  
 27,100 wash leathers.
- B. 13,000 piassava brooms.  
 2,000        "        "        (for points).

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### *Openings for British Trade.*

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Sealed tenders, bearing a proper inscription, should be addressed to "Das Rechnungsbureau in Berlin, W., 35, Schöneberger Ufer 1/4," where they will be received up to 11 a.m. on the 8th February. Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained from "Zimmer 420, Zentralbureau, Königliche Eisenbahndirektion, Berlin," on payment of 50 pfgs. (6d.). Tenders are to hold good until 10th March.

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### NETHERLANDS.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Acting British Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. F. A. Chambers) a notice to the effect that the Holland Railway Company will receive tenders, up to 1.30 p.m. on the 12th February, for the supply of 4,600 tons of railway material (connecting-parts for rails). Copies of the conditions of contract (No. 1,056) may be obtained (postage prepaid) from the Central Administration Building of the Company, "Dienst Weg en Werken," Droogbak, Amsterdam, on payment of fl. 1 (1s. 8d.) by post-office order.

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) reports that tenders will be received up to the 5th February by the Administration of the Gas Works at Zierikzee (province of Zealand) for the supply of about 1,680 tons of gas coal. Particulars can be obtained at the Office of the Gas Works.

From a report on the Finances of the Netherlands by Mr. G. A. Mounsey, Third Secretary to H.M. Legation at the Hague, it appears that the following sums are allotted for extraordinary expenditure during the financial year 1906:—278,541*l.* for Netherlands railways and 104,167*l.* for the Surinam railway. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,527.)

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### SWITZERLAND.

The "Feuille Federale Suisse" of 17th January contains the text of a concession granted to a syndicate headed by M. J. E. Dunand, of Geneva, for the construction of an electric tramway between Versoix and Divonne-les-Bains, *via* Nyon, Prangins and Coppet. The cost of the enterprise is estimated at 950,000 frs. (about 38,000*l.*) of which 199,300 frs. (about 7,972*l.*) is to be expended on rolling stock.

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*Openings for British Trade.***PORTUGAL.**

The "Diario do Governo" of 14th January contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 21st May, at the Directorate-General of Public Works, Lisbon, for the construction and working of a metallic bridge over the river Aveiro, between Torreira and Bestida. A deposit of 5,000 milreis (about 1,125*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is needful in practice. Conditions of tender and specifications are set forth in the "Diario," which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 21st January, contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened 30 days after publication, at the Chief Telegraph Office, 10, Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 55 tons of galvanised wire, 4 millimetres in diameter, 15 tons of bronze wire, 3 millimetres in diameter, and 5 tons of bronze wire, 2 millimetres in diameter, in accordance with the conditions set forth in the "Gaceta."

The maximum price per ton at which tenders will be received is 570 pesetas (about 18*l.*) for the first-named class of wire, 3,350 pesetas (about 107*l.*) for the second, and 3,400 pesetas (about 108*l.*) for the third.

A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods tendered for is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" of 22nd January contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 22nd February, at the office of the Secretary to the Port Works Board, Tarragona, for the supply and installation of a drawbridge at that port, in accordance with conditions on view at the above-named office.

The "Gaceta" of 25th January publishes a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 31st March, for the concession of an electric tramway in Barcelona, in accordance with certain conditions detailed in the "Gaceta." An application for this concession has already been made by the Barcelona and San Andrés Tramway Company, who, at the same rates, will enjoy certain preferential rights over other tenderers. The competition will turn, in the first place, on the reduction of the tariffs proposed, and if two or more identical propositions are made, a further verbal adjudication will take place with a view to a reduction of the period of the concession (60 years). A deposit of 2,576 pesetas (about 83*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **SPAIN—continued.**

The "Gaceta" of 26th January contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 6th March, at the Directorate General of Public Works, Madrid, for carrying out improvement works at the port of San Esteban de Pravia, at the estimated cost of 8,404,571 pesetas (about 271,993*l.*), in accordance with plans, &c., on view at the above-mentioned office and at the office of the Civil Governor of Oviedo. A deposit of 170,000 pesetas (about 5,501*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

**Port  
Improvement  
Works.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 27th January announces that tenders will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the Chief Telegraph Office, 10 Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 60,000 porcelain insulators (No. 2, Spanish telegraph type), to be delivered in five equal lots, at Madrid, Barcelona, Córdoba, Valladolid and Zaragoza. The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 80 céntimos per insulator. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods at the upset price is required to qualify any tender.

**Porcelain  
Insulators.**

Local representation is necessary in tendering in Spain.

The "Gaceta" of 22nd January notifies that a concession has been granted to Señores Eugenio and Augusto Arranz, for the appropriation of 200 litres of water per second from the river Botijas, at a point situated at Cuevas de Provanco (Segovia), for the production of electric power for lighting and other industrial purposes.

**Hydro-electric  
Plant.**

It is further noted that a similar concession has been granted to Don Eugenio Moreno Surráiz, for an appropriation of 100 litres of water per second from the river Tajo, at a point situated between Toledo and Mocejón, for the purposes of irrigation and the production of motive power.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**Railway Plant.** See notice on p. 225.

### **SPANISH NORTH AFRICA.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 24th January contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 24th February, at the Directorate-General of Public Works, Madrid, for the construction of a breakwater and an iron wharf at Melilla, and for carrying out improvement works in the natural harbour of the Chafarinas Islands, in accordance with plans, &c., on view at the above-mentioned office, and at the

**Breakwater and  
Wharf Construc-  
tion and other  
Port Improve-  
ment Works.**

### *Openings for British Trade.*

offices of the Civil Governor of the Province of Malaga. The total cost of the works is estimated at 4,995,296 pesetas (about 161,660*l.*); a deposit of 249,764 pesetas (about 8,083*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### ITALY.

According to the "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Milan, the Municipality of Terrasini (Sicily)

**Waterworks.** have decided to expend 172,000 lire (about 6,880*l.*) on the construction of an aqueduct for supplying that town with drinking water.

The "Bulletin" also reports the following applications for the appropriation of water power for industrial purposes:—

**Hydro-electric Plant.** 1. By Signori Rinaldo Negri and Carlo Tumi, for an appropriation of 1,000 litres per second from the river Belviso, Commune of Teglio, for the purposes of electric lighting and electric traction.

2. By Signor J. Lusardi, of Morbegno, for an appropriation of 100 litres per second from the Valcervo waterfall, Commune of Cedrano, for the purposes of electric lighting.

3. By the Rome Electrical Company for an appropriation from the Tiber, for the purposes of electric traction.

4. By Signori M. Modugno and E. Ugolini for an appropriation from the Vergari waterfall, for electric lighting and traction, and other industrial purposes.

The "Bulletin" also announces that the following electric railways are projected:—

**Electric Railway Plant.** 1. The Avellino Provincial Council have decided to grant an annual subvention of 500 lire (about 20*l.*) per kilom. for the construction of an electric railway between Naples and Altripalda, *via* Santa Maria del Pozzo, Nola, Lanzo and Avellino.

2. An application has been made by the Lake Maggiore Navigation Company for a concession to construct a cog (*crémaillère*) railway, 10 kiloms. long, between Stresa and Mottarone.

3. The Italian Electric Traction Company have asked the support of the Communes interested in the construction of an electric railway between Aosta and Courmayeur. A maximum capital of 600,000 lire (about 24,000*l.*) will be required for this enterprise.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **ITALY**—*continued.*

The "Bulletin" further states that the Ministries of Public Works and Finance are now engaged in drawing up the budget of expenditure for the Italian State Railways during the years 1906—1916.

It is estimated that during that period it will be necessary to expend 500,000,000 lire (about 20,000,000*l.*) on doubling lines, enlarging stations and other construction works. Many of the principal stations will be enlarged or reconstructed, among others those at Milan, Rome, Naples, Bologna, Catania, Messina, Turin, Verona and Venice. A further sum of 100,000,000 lire (about 4,000,000*l.*) will be required for augmenting the existing rolling stock. Moreover, a further expenditure of some 400,000,000 lire (about 16,000,000*l.*) will be entailed during the next ten years, to cope with the probable increase of traffic during that period; bringing the total sum required up to 40,000,000*l.* The State Railways Administration are anxious to obtain a Government loan of this amount.

### **ROUMANIA.**

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 24th January states that the Roumanian Ministry of Public Works will shortly invite tenders for the supply of two large steamers for the Constanza-Alexandria line, and two cargo boats of 6,500 tons for the Donau-Rotterdam line.

The same issue of the "Moniteur" reports that the Municipality of Giurgevo will shortly invite tenders for the installation of an electric lighting system in that town, at the estimated cost of 960,000 francs (about 38,400*l.*).

### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been informed by the British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) that he has received an enquiry for the names and addresses of British manufacturers of leather board, a sample of which may be seen at the Offices of the Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Communications should be addressed to the British Commercial Agent, British Consulate General, New York.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**MEXICO.**

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico, of 3rd January, notifies an application by Mr. Angus H. McLean, for an appropriation of 1,500 litres of water per second from the river Grande de Misantla, State of Veracruz, for electric lighting and other industrial purposes.

**Hydro-electric  
Plant.**

The "Diario" of 6th January notifies an application by Señor Miguel Cervantes y Estanillo, for an appropriation of water from the river Xalapango and Papapotla, State of Mexico, for the production of electric power and other industrial purposes.

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**CHILE.**

According to the "Chilian Times," the Director of State Telegraphs in Chile is calling for tenders for the supply of 2,250 metric quintals of wire, 27,500 insulators, 20,000 rolls of Morse paper, and other telegraphic materials. The tenders are to be opened on 15th March next, and they must be accompanied by a deposit note for a sum equal to 5 per cent. of the value of the articles tendered for.

**Telegraphic  
Materials.**

The same publication states that the Chilian Government have authorised the Municipality of Punta Arenas to contract a loan of 40,000*l.* with the Bank of Tarapacá and Argentina, Ltd., the amount to be exclusively devoted to the construction and working of water and drainage works for the service of the town.

**Water and  
Drainage Works.**

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**BRAZIL.**

According to the "Handels Museum" (Vienna) the Municipal Chamber of Floreanopolis, in the State of Santa Catharina, Brazil, recently held a competition for the electric lighting of the town and the construction of an electric tramway. As only one tender was submitted, it has been decided to call for fresh tenders.

**Electric Lighting  
and Tramway at  
Floreanopolis.**

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**BOLIVIA.**

Referring to the development of railway construction in Bolivia (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th May last, p. 201) the "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Ayres) of 29th December, states that the Bolivian Congress has sanctioned the Railway Bill in the following form:—

**Railway  
Material.**

1. The Government are to have surveys made for the following lines from Oruro to the left bank of the River Desaguadero, in

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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front of Ullorna, where the line will join up with the line from Arica to La Paz; (a) from Oruro to Cochabamba (this line is to be built as soon as possible); (b) from Ullorna to Potosi, thence to Tupiza.

2. The construction of these lines is to be paid for out of the indemnities received from Brazil and Chile, and in accordance with the guarantees accorded by Chile in the Treaty of 20th October, 1904.

3. A contract is to be entered into for the construction of a line from La Paz to Puerto Pando. The guarantee for this line is to be the tax on cocoa, collected in La Paz, and 500,000 bolivianos per annum from the alcohol tax.

4. The lines mentioned in Art. 1 are to be constructed in the following order: Cochabamba to Santa Cruz, passing through Chimore; Oruro to Potosi and Mecha; Potosi to Sucre, and thence to Sauces.

5. When the time arrives for the construction of the second group of lines, that from Potosi to Sucre is to be the first undertaken.

6. The Government are to have surveys made for a line from San Antonio to La Quiaca, terminating in Tarija.

7. Independently of the construction of these lines, and that from Arica to La Paz in accordance with the treaty with Chile, the Government are to construct a direct line from Arica to Oruro, passing through the Corangas province.

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**FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.**

**UNITED KINGDOM.**

An exhibition of colonial products under the patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was opened at St. George's Hall, Liverpool, on the 30th January, and is to remain open till the 8th February. The exhibition, which is the second of its kind, comprises minerals, fruits, cotton, and a variety of raw and manufactured products.

**International  
Chemists'  
Exhibition.**

The Board of Trade have received a prospectus of an International Chemists' Exhibition to be held at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W., from the 23rd to the 27th April inclusive.

A copy of the prospectus of an International Health, Food and Hygiene Exhibition to be held at the Crystal Palace from the 7th April to the 5th June inclusive, has also been received.

**International  
Health, Food and  
Hygiene  
Exhibition.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**LAGOS.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received, from the Acting Colonial Secretary at Lagos (Mr. E. A. Speed), copy of a preliminary announcement of an Agricultural Show to be held in Lagos in November, 1906, under the auspices of the Lagos Government.

**Agricultural  
Show.**

A leading feature of the show will be the sections for implements and machinery suitable either for the cultivation of tropical produce, or for its preparation for the European markets and for local consumption. Medals and diplomas will be awarded, and manufacturers are invited to consider the desirability of forwarding exhibits to compete in the above classes.

Exhibits of any simple implements or machinery, suitable for the cultivation or preparation of the principal products of the Colony (palm oil, palm kernels, rubber, cotton, maize, cocoa, coffee, shea butter, mahogany, &c.), are invited. For the guidance of prospective exhibitors, it should be noted that in Lagos there are at present no draught animals working on the plantations and farms; consequently exhibits of hand implements and machines would be the most suitable.

It is believed that the steamship companies from Liverpool and Hamburg to West Africa will quote only nominal rates of freight on exhibits, but definite information on this and other points may be obtained in April to June, 1906, by applying in writing to the Colonial Secretary, Lagos, or to the Commercial Intelligence Officer for Lagos and Southern Nigeria, care of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W.

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**GERMANY—BAVARIA.**

H.M. Consul at Munich (Mr. L. Buchmann) reports that the following Bavarian exhibitions are announced:

**Exhibitions at  
Nuremberg and  
Munich.**

1. Bavarian Jubilee Exhibition of Trades, Industry, Arts and Crafts at Nuremberg ("Bayerische Jubiläums, Landes, Industrie, Gewerbe und Kunstausstellung") from May to October, 1906, which will be held under the patronage of the Prince Regent.

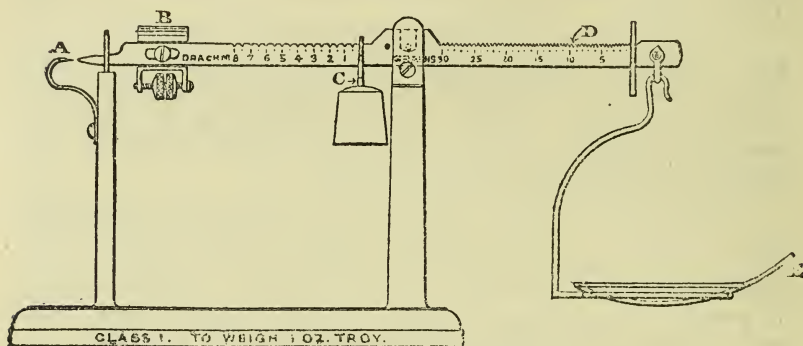
2. International Exhibition of Photography at Munich in 1907. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,526.)

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## NOTICE UNDER THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT, 1904.

The following is a copy of a Notice (No. 19) giving the results of the examination and testing of a weighing instrument for use in trade, which has been submitted to the Board of Trade under the provisions of Section 6 of the Weights and Measures Act, 1904:—

(19)



ONE-THIRD FULL SIZE.

- A. Indicator.
- B. Sliding block held by a screw and readily movable.
- C. Poise weight, readily removable.
- D. Thickness of beam,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch.
- E. Glass pan.

The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a counter steelyard described as a dispensing scale, of the form herewith shown, submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, but as the result of the examination was not satisfactory, the Board have declined to issue a certificate of approval.

## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**South Africa.**—The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a report from their Correspondent at Port Elizabeth (Mr. J. S. Neave), in the course of which he states that South African trade is improving and the outlook becoming slowly brighter. The rains in many parts of the country have done much good, but they have not been entirely general, there being parts still suffering from the effects of drought. In the parts where rain fell the farmers obtained good prices for their produce, but more than one good season is needed before there will be additional spending power, over and above the actual wants of the day.

*British Trade Abroad.*

Stocks are now normal, and orders are being received steadily and regularly. Statistics show that general trade is of about the same volume as in the years preceding the war. The in-transit trade has been improving of late, due to the great facilities afforded by Port Elizabeth for the prompt landing and despatch of goods. The produce shipped from Port Elizabeth to London and the Continent in 1905 comprised 74,363 bales of wool, 16,424 bales of mohair, 516 bales of horns, 17,325 bundles of sheepskins, 7,582 bundles of goat skins, and 3,747 bundles of hides.

**Cuba.**—A supplementary report on the trade of Cuba during the year 1904, by the Acting British Consul-General at Havana (Mr. G. W. E. Griffith), from which the statement given on p. 233 is quoted, contains also, on pp. 13-18, a comparative table of the principal articles of import into Cuba during the years 1902-4, together with remarks as to their origin, which may prove useful to British traders. The report (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,522) may be obtained at a cost of 2*d.* (exclusive of postage) from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

## TRADE OF NATAL.

The following particulars relating to the trade of Natal during 1905, as compared with the preceding year, have been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew). The figures for 1905 (July-December) are approximate only, pending completion of the Annual Returns:—

					Imports (including Government Stores).	Exports.
					£	£
<b>1904.</b>						
January to June	...	...	...	...	5,524,531	663,297
July to December	...	...	...	...	5,149,412	693,044
Total	...	...	...	...	10,673,943	1,356,341
<b>1905.</b>						
January to June	...	...	...	...	5,043,601	920,924
July to December	...	...	...	...	5,226,674	885,340
Total	...	...	...	...	10,270,275	1,806,264

*Note.*—The value of raw gold exported is not included in the above.

The value of the exports of Colonial goods amounted to 1,531,282*l.* in 1905, as against 1,046,342*l.* in 1904, the chief items being as follows:—

*Trade of Natal.*

	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Coal ... ..	401,792	417,442
Bark, wattle ... ..	92,911	99,780
Sugar, unrefined ... ..	81,404	100,628
Wool, sheep's* ... ..	289,132	408,831

\* Includes produce of adjoining Colonies forwarded to Durban for shipment.

The following statement shows the fluctuations in the imports of sundry articles during 1904 and the eleven months ended 30th November, 1905. The figures for July-November, 1905, are taken from monthly returns issued by the Customs Statistical Bureau at Capetown, and are subject to alteration when fuller returns are made up:—

**Imports into Natal—Oversea.**

	1904.		1905.	
	Jan.—June.	July—Dec.	Jan.—June.	July—Nov.
	£	£	£	£
Agricultural implements ... ..	35,492	38,646	18,297	36,128
Apparel ... ..	165,137	190,604	188,551	223,135
Butter, &c. ... ..	164,818	100,368	166,438	93,969
Cheese ... ..	21,833	34,283	19,895	23,584
Corn, &c.—				
Maize ... ..	82,501	273	55	712
Wheaten flour ... ..	253,986	102,126	251,161	78,949
Confectionery and jams, &c. ... ..	30,900	43,433	33,304	52,725
Meats, fresh and frozen ... ..	497,185	477,212	317,094	332,168
Sugar ... ..	51,197	52,225	117,387	22,925
Tea ... ..	22,368	26,293	31,347	29,363
Spirits ... ..	104,592	116,987	115,792	105,242
Candles ... ..	30,420	26,882	23,086	23,040
Carriages, carts, bicycles, &c. ... ..	80,155	67,298	81,930	94,271
Cement ... ..	28,064	19,708	13,196	19,431
Furniture ... ..	89,022	92,374	76,281	147,883
Hardware and metal manufactures	452,268	356,276	397,990	295,706
Machinery ... ..	299,811	256,551	293,306	403,375
Leather—				
Boots and shoes ... ..	133,848	149,054	170,425	160,333
Manufactures ... ..	26,666	22,231	30,227	33,957
Cotton piece-goods ... ..	26,829	29,420	44,396	56,621
Wool piece-goods ... ..	8,666	9,690	12,080	11,702
Blankets, &c. ... ..	44,684	19,310	51,354	22,796
Haberdashery, &c. ... ..	291,320	327,890	337,247	318,772
Other goods ... ..	1,961,282	1,996,198	1,989,228	1,648,438
Totals, merchandise ... ..	£ 4,903,044	4,555,332	4,780,067	4,235,225

## TRADE CREDITS IN EGYPT.

The following particulars respecting trade credits in Egypt are extracted from the January issue of the "Journal" of the British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt:—

"Speaking generally, Egypt is a country of long credits, the main causes being—(1) apart from home consumption, the cultivator produces only one selling crop per annum of any value—usually cotton; (2) the ingrained habit of the native not to honour his bills on the due date; and (3) the land-hunger which is so strongly developed in the fellaheen.

"As regards (1), although the cultivator cannot put the whole of his feddans under the one crop, the cereals which he otherwise produces are practically all used for home purposes, the balance bringing in very little hard cash. It thus follows that he only handles ready money in any quantity at one period of the year, and, therefore, it is almost useless to expect him to pay off debts during the remaining months. The retailer who has, of course, given credit has, consequently, to wait for his money, and, since everything works back to the fellaheen, so on right up the scale to the manufacturer.

"The second reason given for lengthy credits is perhaps the one which is the hardest for British manufacturers to appreciate. There seems a difficulty in convincing British firms that it is the custom, habit, or even principle of the Arab not to honour his acceptances on the due date. The native does not look upon a bill or draft in the same light as a European. With the former the acceptance is more or less an acknowledgment of a debt owing, and the fact that the document stipulates for the liquidation of the same on a given date is not of paramount importance to him, since the non-payment of a bill on the day it is due does not carry with it a loss of dignity to the Arab in the sense understood by British houses. As a rule the native intends to pay, and will pay, but not on the date originally fixed.

"With comparatively few exceptions the fellah does not invest his surplus funds in stocks and shares, and, therefore, the only market open to him is that of land. The desire to acquire land is exceedingly strong, and time and again the Arab employs the trader's money in order to purchase an additional feddan or two. It is this intense keenness for ownership which is often responsible for the dishonouring of bills, to say nothing of the relationship which it bears to the question of the high prices paid for plots of well-situated land. . . .

"Although merchants and commission agents—British and foreign—are always complaining of the credits they are compelled to give, they have, in a large measure, themselves to blame for the present state of things. The great prosperity of the country during the past decade has brought with it a very large increase in the number of trade competitors, with the result that, in order to obtain business, wholesale prices have been lowered

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*Trade Credits in Egypt.*

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and additional facilities given for payment. The native trader is perfectly well aware that if he breaks with one man, there are a dozen more ready to do his business, and it is, consequently, only natural to find that agents are willing to stretch a point in the matter of credit rather than lose a good customer. Competition is carried on to such an extent that some of the largest firms in the country—native and otherwise—are in such a position that they can refuse to sign drafts, or—when goods are delivered from stocks here—to give any acknowledgment beyond a simple receipt.

“It is, of course, impossible to lay down any hard and fast rules governing the granting of credit here, since each agent is more or less a law unto himself. Speaking broadly, however, it may be said that a commission house, dealing in the ordinary articles of commerce, allows the buyer from four to six months grace from the arrival of the goods, with further extensions up to, in many instances, one year. Attempts are often made to include interest when a bill is renewed, but great difficulty is experienced in carrying this through owing, for one reason, to religious objections on the part of the Arabs, it being against the tenets of Mahomet to pay interest of any kind.

“A very common thing is for a customer to pay so much on account when the bill falls due, a little more after, say, another few weeks, and so on until the debt is wiped off. In many instances, in fact, the agent has to accept weekly payments as a means of obtaining his money. If the buyer is reliable, fresh credits are given as the account becomes reduced, and thus the turnover is worked out.

“On Manchester goods, which is the largest import trade in the country, the custom appears to be to give three months’ credit for the ordinary goods such as calicoes, shirtings, tanjibs, yarns, &c., and from five to eight months for fancy goods, *e.g.*, printed stuffs, brocades, sateens and the like. . . .

“The engineering trade, out of which large sums were made in past years, has felt the stress of competition very keenly, and credits have increased accordingly. Formerly the terms in force were, say, one-third of the purchase money with the order, one-third after six months from delivery, and the remainder by a 12 months bill. During the past five or six years these facilities have gradually grown until now the buyer has anything from six to nine months in which to pay the second one-third, and from 12 to 18 months for the balance. In special cases, payments are extended for as long as two years, but, in such instances, interest from 7 per cent. to 9 per cent. is charged.

“One of the few cases in which payment is made by cash against documents is the trade in cereals, the imports of wheat, flour, barley, &c., being usually made on these conditions. The main reason for this satisfactory state of affairs appears to be the

*Trade Credits in Egypt.*

heavy and constant fluctuations in the price of the goods, with the consequent openings for trouble if the market goes against the buyer before delivery. Certain lines of chemicals and sundry of the metal imports are made on the terms last mentioned, whilst the same remarks are often applicable to cheap confectionery where prices are cut down to a minimum. . . .

"It is very little use for firms to contemplate starting an Egyptian trade, unless they are prepared to conform to the present custom of the country, and give credit—assuming they wish to deal with the masses. Of course, if they are able to correspond with a merchant who will buy outright, the case is different, though profits will obviously be smaller. . . .

"In conclusion, we would again impress upon Manufacturers that, if they have confidence in their Agents—which after all is the crux of the whole matter—they should not be unreasonable when requested to allow a customer a little further credit than the period agreed upon in the first instance."

## SILK CONDITIONED AT EUROPEAN SILK CENTRES.

With reference to the article on p. 305 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th February, 1905, the following statistics have been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey), showing the amount of silk conditioned at Milan during the years 1904 and 1905, as compared with the silk conditioned at other European silk centres during the same years:—

Silk Centres.	1904.					1905.				
	Organ-zine.	Tram.	Raw.	Other.	Total.	Organ-zine.	Tram.	Raw.	Other.	Total.
	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
Milan .....	1,287,905	1,264,255	6,325,045	348,300	9,222,505	1,299,060	1,528,375	6,212,875	398,845	9,439,155
Lyons .....	829,746	993,358	4,610,390	62,190	6,495,684	966,129	1,136,241	4,787,115	53,926	6,943,411
St. Etienne .....	504,878	214,528	326,095	1,857	1,047,358	449,336	207,959	243,476	2,896	903,667
Zurich .....	523,648	622,573	376,041	—	1,522,262	547,724	587,573	384,210	—	1,519,607
Crefeld .....	284,970	205,056	87,602	13,619	591,247	233,425	197,702	34,705	6,677	472,519
Basle .....	271,025	154,389	173,527	546	599,487	235,920	161,449	148,908	833	547,110
Turin .....	270,858	23,590	212,211	4,679	511,338	293,907	38,983	273,643	7,710	614,243
Elberfeld .....	292,118	133,476	177,311	—	602,905	296,367	151,782	167,102	489	615,740

## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES. AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of a Bill providing "for the preservation of Australian Industries and for the repression of Commercial Trusts."

### Preservation of Australian Industries.

The Bill was introduced into the Commonwealth House of Representatives by the Minister for Trade and Customs, and read a first time, on 12th December, 1905. It provides that whenever the Comptroller-General of Customs has reason to believe that goods are being imported which may be disposed of within the Commonwealth in unfair competition (as defined in the Bill) with Australian goods, the Minister for Trade and Customs may be notified accordingly, and will appoint a Board of three persons for investigation and report thereon for the consideration of the Governor-General.

In the case of the Board reporting that the goods are competing, or probably will compete, unfairly with Australian industries, the preservation of which is advantageous to the Commonwealth, the Governor-General may, under the powers of the Customs Act of 1901, prohibit the importation of such goods either absolutely or under such conditions as he deems just.

Provision is also made in the Bill for the repression of Commercial Trusts which, by creating monopolies and restricting trade, have an injurious effect on Australian industries.

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## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS. AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a Supplement (No. 53) to the Customs Tariff Guide, issued by the Commonwealth Department of Trade and Customs on 30th November last, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Apparatus: Justifying, used in electrotyping—	
As machine tools   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	Free.
Bags, gold or silver chain, with chain handle—	
As bags, &c.   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Cards, Chinese playing, in packs—	
As cards, playing   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	3s. per doz. packs— each pack not to exceed 53 cards.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH**—*continued.*

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Cloths : Table, tea and tray, and similar articles— As apparel and attire, and articles, n.e.i. ... ..	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
*Covers : Embroidered, sideboard, table, toilet or sets, and similar articles— As apparel and attire, and articles, n.e.i. ... ..	25 % „
Crimping machine, hand-power, wire— As machinery, n.e.i. ... ..	12½ % „
Musk, artificial, used by confectioners— As other articles ... ..	Free.
Ruling pen-making machine— As manufactures of metals, n.e.i. ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Scales : Wheat-testing, having an indicator showing the proportion of lbs. to the bushel— As weighing machines, scales, n.e.i., &c. ... ..	20 % „
Separators, oil or grease— As manufactures of metals, n.e.i. ... ..	20 % „
Spreader, international manure— Vehicular portion : As vehicles and parts, n.e.i. ... .. Agricultural portion : As agricultural implements and machinery ... ..	20 % „ 12½ % „
Wool-hardening machine (double or double flat), used for manufacturing felt hats— As machinery ... ..	Free.

\* Revised decision.

**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**

A copy of the “Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette” for 2nd January last has been received, which contains Regulations to be observed by Persons dealing in Imported Goods. a Customs Notice issued by the Controller of Customs on 29th December, 1905, drawing the attention, more especially of persons or firms dealing in goods imported into the Colony, to section 3 of Act No. 5 of 1905.

The present notice states that under the above section it is required that all persons carrying on any business in the Colony shall keep reasonable and proper books or accounts of their transactions, and must be prepared to produce the bills of lading, invoices, and all other documents containing all particulars regarding imported and sold goods for inspection by Customs officers, under a penalty of 100*l.*, or imprisonment with or without hard labour for any period not exceeding one year.

The Controller of the Cape Customs adds that it is accordingly intended to institute, at an early date, a system of inspection, and that proceedings will be instituted against persons failing to comply with the provisions of the above-mentioned section.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### GERMANY—(CONVENTION WITH) BULGARIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the ratifications of the Commercial Convention recently concluded between Germany and Bulgaria were exchanged at Berlin on the 9th January.

The reductions of duty accorded by Germany to Bulgaria under this Convention do not, for the most part, affect the rates shown in the translation of the new German Customs Tariff, as modified by Treaties, which has been published as a Parliamentary Paper [Cd. 2,414: price 1s. 10d.]. A few rates of duty which were previously "general" are now conventionalised; but the only actual reductions of duty are as follows:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Reduction of Duty. (Per 100 kilogs.)
<i>Ex</i> 164	Milled and pearled grain, groats and semolina cereals, except oats ... ..	From 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ marks to 12 marks.
<i>Ex</i> 353	Essential oil of roses ... ..	" 30 " " 20 "
544	Sheep or goat skins (including lamb and kid skins), with the hair removed, half or wholly tanned or tawed, but not dyed, and without further preparation, split or not ... ..	" 3 " " 2 "

These reductions come into force with the new Tariff on the 1st March next.

### FRANCE.

A recent French Customs Circular contains a copy of a French Presidential Decree, fixing the rate of the manufacturing tax on alcohol and products with an alcoholic base, from the 1st January, 1906, at 1 fr. 62 cts. per hectol. of pure alcohol.

By a Presidential Decree of 30th November, 1905, the quantities of coffee and cocoa in the bean, the produce of the French portion of the Conventional Basin of the Congo, which may be admitted into France at the reduced rates of 124 and 95 frs. per 100 kilogs. respectively, during the year 1906, have been fixed as follows:—

Coffee ... ..	50,000 kilogs.
Cocoa ... ..	25,000 "

A recent French Customs Circular states that the grounds of the International Exhibition of Aviculture, to be held at Paris from the 9th to the 12th February, 1906, have been constituted a Customs warehouse. Articles sent for exhibition thereat may be despatched through to their destination, under transit regulations, without undergoing Customs examination at the frontier.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### FRANCE--*continued.*

A Circular containing the instructions addressed to French Veterinary Inspectors for the carrying out of the Decree of the 11th June, 1905,\* regulating the importation of animals into France, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 310 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 16th November last, it is to be observed that the impost of 50 reis per ton mentioned under section 2 is leviable only on merchandise transhipped at Beira, whilst the port improvement due of 47 reis per ton is leviable only on "all merchandise landed or embarked from the land," and not on goods which are merely transhipped in the port.

NOTE.—For particulars as to the new pilotage dues at Beira, see p. 224.

### SPAIN.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 78 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 11th January, reporting the presentation to the Spanish Cortes of a Bill approving the Royal Decrees of the 6th April, and of the 12th September, 1905, which modified the Spanish import duties on wheat and flour†, it is to be noted that, according to the "Gaceta de Madrid" for the 12th January, this Bill has now received Legislative sanction.

### ITALY.

With reference to the notice which appeared at pp. 121-2 of the "Journal" for the 18th January, reporting the application of the Italian General Tariff to Spanish products, it is to be noted that in accordance with a circular recently issued to Italian Customs officers, certificates of origin are to be required in the case of the undermentioned articles for which the benefits of the Conventional Tariff are claimed:—

Wine in casks or bottles; olive oil; oil of turpentine; compound medicines (except those in receptacles or packing bearing the name and address of the preparer; cotton velvets; various utensils and manufactures of common wood, rough; dried prunes; beans, peas, mushrooms, and asparagus,

\* See the "Board of Trade Journal," for the 24th August, 1905, p. 356.

† See the "Board of Trade Journal" for 4th May, 1905, pp. 208-9, and for 28th September, 1905, p. 594.

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

preserved in oil, salt, or vinegar; certain species of fish (including mackerel, sardines, anchovies, and pilchards) salted; fish marinated or in oil, excluding tunny; cheese; horn and bone, manufactured (except combs and hair pins); musical instruments (except organs, pianos, harmoniums); fans.

As regards other articles for which "conventional" rates of duty are established, the Customs may require indirect proof of their origin (invoices or other documents) should there be reason to suspect that they are Spanish produce.

The presentation of certificates of origin for the above-mentioned goods was to be strictly enforced from the 16th January.

### ROUMANIA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Roumanian Law fixing the method of assessment of Customs duty on imported merchandise—whether by gross or net weight—and the tare allowance to be made in respect of goods dutiable according to net weight. The Law is to come into force with the new Tariff on 1st March next.

In accordance with this Law, imported merchandise will pay duty according to either gross or net weight; net weight being subdivided into "legal" and "real" net weight. The articles comprised in each of the three classes are enumerated in Schedules annexed to the Law. The "Exposé de Motifs" introducing the measure states, in regard to articles dutiable by net weight, that so far as possible all goods which can conveniently be separated from their packing are to pay duty on their *real* net weight, the Schedule applicable to this group indicating whether this is to include or exclude the immediate or interior packing. Only 68 classes of goods, as compared with 210 under the old tariff, are to be dutiable according to their *legal* net weight, *i.e.*, the gross weight less the percentage tare allowance specified in the appropriate Schedule in respect of the receptacles in which they are imported. The number of articles dutiable on gross weight has been somewhat increased.

It should be mentioned that receptacles of commercial value, such as metal casks and cans; painted and planed cases; cases of oak, beech, &c.; wooden tubs with iron hoops, and the like, which are at present admitted free of duty when imported containing goods, are under the new Law to pay duty according to kind separately from the goods. Packings and barrels having no commercial value will, however, continue to be exempt from duty.

The text of the Law (in French), together with English translations of the Schedules referred to above, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ROUMANIA—*continued.*

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 505 of the "Journal" for the 14th December last, reporting that the new Roumanian Customs Tariff, as modified by Treaties, is to come into force on the 1st March next, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that, in accordance with a Circular recently issued by the Roumanian Government, all goods declared after 6 p.m. on the 28th February, will be dutiable under the new Tariff, even though they may have entered Roumania before the 1st March.

**Date of Operation  
of New Tariff.—  
Goods Declared  
on  
28th February.**

### COSTA RICA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree of the President of Costa Rica, which was to come into force to-day (1st February), modifying the tariff classification of crockery and chinaware, and the duties thereon, as shown in the following statement:—

Tariff classification.	Duty* per kilogramme.
Crockery or stoneware—	Colon.
Plain, without ornamentation, reliefs, or filigree work ... ..	0 10
With reliefs, filigree work, or ornamentation ... ..	0 15
Chinaware—	
Plain, without reliefs, filigree work, or ornamentation ... ..	0 20
With any kind of ornamentation ... ..	0 25
<i>Note.</i> —Chinaware is distinguished from crockery or stoneware by the fact of its being translucent.	
Articles of whiteware, graniteware, Japanese and black stoneware, will pay duty as stoneware.	

\* These duties are subject to the surtax of 50 per cent. established by the Decree of 27th April, 1901.

Kilog. = 2.2046 lbs. avoirdupois ; colon (100 cents) = 1s. 11d.

### VENEZUELA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that the surtax of 30 per cent. on the duties leviable on goods imported into Venezuela from Europe or from the United States after transshipment or warehousing in foreign colonies has been abolished by Presidential Decree.

**Abolition of  
Surtax on Goods  
Transhipped in  
Foreign Colonies.**

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the Argentine Customs Law, dated 20th December, 1905, enacting the tariff of import and export duties at present in force in the Republic. The following are the most important provisions of the Law:—

#### I.—*Import Duties.*

*Article 2.*—The following articles shall be dutiable *ad valorem*, and shall pay duties of:—

(a) 25 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

All merchandise not subjected in this law to a special duty and not exempted from duty.

(b) 50 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Arms, accessories, and appurtenances thereof; harness and harness-makers' wares, complete or not; sword-sticks; carts and carriages, finished or not, and bodies and shafts in the rough, for the same; cartridges for fire-arms; rockets; ammunition and warlike stores; perfumery; gunpowder.

(c) 40 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Articles of any kind of tissue, made up wholly or in part; portmanteaus and trunks; leather bags of more than 25 centimetres, with or without fittings; bags of canvas or of other kinds of cotton; small bags or bladders for wine, made up wholly or in part; borax; iron and steel boxes; empty match-boxes; boots and shoes, finished or in pieces; chromos, oleographs, and prints, in colours, on cardboard or paper; hides and skins, tanned; fine lace of silk or half-silk; fine lace of linen thread; labels in inks or colours, and chromos on paper or cardboard, for cigars, match-boxes, beverages, perfumery, chemical products and the like, or for any other purpose; labels, gummed or not, with or without inscriptions, including those on pasteboard for hanging; buckles and mountings for harness and harness-makers' wares; commercial printed matter, bills of exchange, cheques, drafts, shares, stamps, letters of credit, invoices, memorandum forms, dockets, and the like; paper and envelopes printed or with addresses, and plain envelopes; the same, lithographed or stamped with copper or steel plate; printed matter on pasteboard or cardboard, in inks or colours, or chromos for advertisements or other uses, including tickets of all sorts and calendars (block or other); hosiery of all kinds; mosaics; furniture, complete or in pieces; trimmings or cords of silk or half-silk, with or without metal threads; sandpaper; hats and caps not chargeable with a specific duty; printed cards, engraved or lithographed.

(d) 35 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Carbons for arc lamps; jewel-cases; blankets of wool or of wool mixed with other materials, with cotton warp, hemmed or fringed; lace tissues; iron screws, bolts, and nuts.

(e) 30 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Woollen tissues, with or without admixture of other materials.

(f) 20 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Steel in bars and plates (large or small); unbleached cotton cloth, known as "grey domestics" (*lienzos*).

(g) 15 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Oak, cedar, pine, spruce (white and candlewood), unplanned; silk bolting cloth.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### NEW ARGENTINE CUSTOMS LAW—*continued.*

(b) 10 per cent. *ad valorem* :—

White lead; tartaric and citric acids; anhydrous ammonia in cylinders; metallic antimony; sand and stone used in vessels for ballast; automobiles, complete, and accessories and parts for the same imported separately from the vehicles for which they are destined; powdered baryta or impure sulphide of baryta; pitch or coal-tar; mineral pitch; cocoa in the bean; carts for the transport of cereals; Brazil or Paraguay nuts; small boats, fitted or not; tin in bars or ingots; degrass grease; malt; wicks, braided or not, for candles; aloe fibre (*pita*), jute, or hemp, spun for plaiting; sesqui-sulphide of phosphorus and other substances used instead of white phosphorus for the manufacture of matches; sulphate of lime; sulphate of copper; bookbinder's cloth.

(i) 5 per cent. *ad valorem* :—

Heavy tar oils; barbed iron or steel wire for fencing; iron or steel wire, galvanised or not, up to No. 14 inclusive; pure copper wire, less than 5 millimetres in thickness; cork in squares or roughly prepared; jewellery; needles for sewing machines; apparatus for protection against hail; wire and cables of more than 5 millimetres in diameter, for electrical purposes, and implements for the installation of underground cables; ploughs and spare parts thereof; Fontainebleau sand; saffron; quicksilver; sulphur, crude, in lumps; raw cotton, ginned or not, and yarn for weaving; Trinidad asphalt and natural asphalt stone; impure bisulphite of sodium; cocoa husks; Guayaquil carozos; caucho (inferior india-rubber), in the natural state; Quillaya bark; ordinary tanning extracts from 25 to 30 degrees (Beaumé), except Quebracho and Cebil extract; mats, made of fibre; fibre or wood pulp for the manufacture of paper; yarn for wax matches; gelatine for the manufacture of meat preserves; malleable iron, in bars, hoops, or plates, unwrought; iron in ingots for foundries; twine for reaping machines; tinplate, unwrought, cut or not; kaolin; fireproof bricks; spun wool and yarn for weaving; flax yarn for weaving; hops; machinery and spare parts thereof; sewing machines and spare parts thereof; shearing machines with, or without motors, and spare parts thereof; agricultural machines, with or without motors, and spare parts thereof; writing, calculating and registering machines; "Champion" system and other machines for excavating roads, and spare parts thereof; machinery and main pipes for the public installation of gas or electric lighting or of water supply or drainage; motors and light locomobiles, traction engines, tricycles, and spare parts thereof; crude nitrate of potassium; natural white paper, in strips of from 1 to 2 centimetres in width, destined exclusively for the manufacture of paper matches; rabbit skins; rosin; precious stones; aloe fibre (*pita*), jute, or hemp, raw, not combed nor spun; lead in sheets, ingots, or bars; compressing machinery for packing forage; Paraguay palm posts for wire work; iron harrows and ploughshares, and horse-rakes; watches of gold or silver, plated or coated with gold, or of base metals; carbonate of soda, soda ash, industrial silicate, impure sulphate and nitrate of soda, caustic soda; impure sulphate of aluminium; pieces of iron for bridges or conduits; fireclay; gold or silver utensils; zinc in ingots and bars; sheet zinc, plain, up to No. 4, cut for boxes.

(To be continued.)

### ECUADOR.

According to the "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" for the 4th January, the export duty on hides in Ecuador has been increased from 0.01 to 0.03 sucre per kilog. (from 1s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 3s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cwt.).

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### BELGIUM.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Ghent has reported that a new line of steamers of the "Comptoir International de Transport et Commission" was to be inaugurated on the 31st January from Ghent to Marseilles and Valencia, and merchandise will be taken on direct bill of lading for transshipment to all other Mediterranean ports. The service will be a monthly one.

### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

H.M. Consul at Beira (Mr. R. C. F. Greville) reports that very great reductions have been made by the Government of the Mozambique Company in the port, wharfage and landing dues hitherto payable upon foreign cargo arriving in the port of Beira. Particulars of the changes in the port dues, &c., will be found on p. 310 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 16th November last, and p. 219 of the present issue.

For the table of pilot dues approved by Decree of 11th August, 1900, is substituted the following:—

#### Pilotage Dues.

##### *Vessels with cargo of:—*

Not more than 50 tons pay...	7,500 reis.
From 51 to 200 tons pay ...	7,500 reis, and in addition 100 reis for each ton in excess of the first 50.
From 201 to 500 tons pay ...	22,500 reis, and in addition 75 reis for each ton in excess of the first 200.
From 501 to 1,000 tons pay..	45,000 reis, and in addition 50 reis for each ton in excess of the first 500.
Over 1,000 tons pay... ..	70,000 reis, and in addition 25 reis for each ton in excess of the first 1,000.

The above charges are levied on the cargo manifested for Beira and landed there: cargo which may be trans-shipped at Beira for conveyance elsewhere is not included.

*Vessels without cargo* pay according to their gross registered tonnage on the following scale, viz.:—

Up to 500 tons ...	{	If not requiring a pilot, <i>nil</i> .
	{	If requiring a pilot, 7,500 reis.
*From 501 to 1,000 ton ...		7,500 reis, and in addition 5 reis for each ton in excess of the first 500.
*From 1,001 to 2,000 tons ...		10,000 reis, and in addition 3 reis for each ton in excess of the first 1,000.
*From 2,001 to 4,000 tons ...		13,000 reis, and in addition 2 reis for each ton in excess of the first 2,000.
*Over 4,000 tons ... ..		17,000 reis, and in addition 1 real for each ton in excess of the first 4,000.

\* Whether requiring a pilot or not.

### *Shipping and Transport.*

The charges for vessels with cargo for transhipment (either directly or by means of lighters) are:—

Up to 500 tons displacement not requiring pilot ... nil.

requiring pilot ... 3,750 reis.

Over 500 tons, 50 per cent. of the charges for a ship of equal tonnage without cargo.

### SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 23rd January announces that the Cortes have ratified the Convention between France and Spain respecting the construction of railway lines across the Pyrenees (*see p. 359 of "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd November, and previous notices*).

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn) has forwarded a schedule of freight rates from Chicago and eastern points of the United States to China and Japan, from which the following are extracted. The full list may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

*Freight rates to Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, Moji, Shanghai, Hongkong, and Manila.*

Articles.	Less than Carloads.	Carloads.
	In cents per 100 lbs.	In cents per 100 lbs.
Beer ... ..	—	100
Bicycles crated ... ..	£00	300
" knocked down ... ..	—	245
Boots and shoes ... ..	225	175
Candles ... ..	—	125
Car wheels and axles, min. C.L. weight 40,000 lbs., not set up... ..	—	75
Car wheels and axles, min. C.L. weight 40,000 lbs., set up ... ..	—	85
Cotton knit underwear; underwear cloth and cotton yarn ... ..	—	175
Cotton piece-goods (until 30th June, 1906) ... ..	175	110
" (from 1st July, 1906) ... ..	—	125
General merchandise ... ..	—	175
Iron, corrugated, pieces not exceeding 13,000 lbs., each Machinery—	—	85
Pieces not exceeding 5,000 lbs. each ... ..	—	95
" 17,000 " " ... ..	—	135
" 30,000 " " ... ..	—	175
" 50,000 " " ... ..	—	220
Milk, condensed ... ..	150	75
Paper ... ..	—	52
Soap ... ..	—	80
Tinplate ... ..	—	45

## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### BRITISH INDIA—BURMA.

The "Times of India" of 6th January reports that, since the closing of work in the Kyaukpazat gold mine, owing to the reef being worked out, the Burma gold output has fallen to 215·76 ounces. This was obtained almost entirely by dredging. The "Times of India" adds that the Burma mining rules contain no special provisions suitable for gold dredging operations, and an expert examination of the gold-bearing rivers of Upper Burma will shortly be made with a view to framing suitable regulations. Several new concessions have been granted in the past twelve months.

### BRITISH GUIANA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of the new mining regulations promulgated in British Guiana, which came into force on the 30th December, 1905. These regulations, which supersede those previously in force, may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### NORWAY.

The Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) has forwarded a cutting from the Norwegian Trade Journal "Farmand" of the 20th January, stating that a company has been formed for the development of the so-called Anker iron ore deposits on the Pasvik peninsula in Finmarken.

### GERMANY.

The subjoined particulars of the coal production of Germany in 1905, as compared with the previous year, are taken from a supplement to the "Nachrichten für Handel und Industrie" of the 22nd January:—

	Coal.		Lignite.		Coke.		Briquettes.	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Prussia ...	112,808,409	113,074,211	41,126,856	44,148,028	12,268,436	16,290,800	10,102,478	11,503,848
Bavaria ...	1,341,314	1,311,951	52,318	121,214	—	—	—	—
Saxony ...	4,794,295	4,943,746	1,915,135	2,156,930	62,727	67,524	300,897	363,053
Other States...	1,750,080	1,860,341	5,405,913	6,047,354	—	—	1,010,092	1,142,781
Total...	120,694,098	121,190,249	48,500,222	52,473,526	12,331,163	16,358,324	11,413,467	13,009,682

The total imports of coal from the United Kingdom amounted to 7,483,421 tons in 1905, as compared with 5,808,032 tons in 1904 and 5,393,828 tons in 1903.

NOTE.—The ton mentioned is the metric ton of 2,204 lbs.

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.***GERMANY—TOGOLAND.**

A despatch has been received from H.M. Ambassador at Berlin (Sir F. C. Lascelles, G.C.B.), forwarding translation of a Decree issued by the Governor of Togoland, by which prospecting and mining for the following minerals are excluded from the rights of landowners in the Protectorate:—

1. Precious metals (gold, silver and platinum), either pure or in ores, and precious stones.
2. All other metals, whether pure or in ores.
3. Glimmer and gems.
4. Coal, salts and useful earths, viz., sea-coal, brown coal and graphite; bitumen in solid, liquid or gaseous form, especially petroleum and asphalt; rock-salt, together with other salts found in the same deposit, and brine; and earths which are of value as containing sulphur, or which can be used for the production of alum, vitriol or saltpetre.

Prospecting and mining for the minerals enumerated are only permissible with the consent of the Governor. The Decree came into force on the 11th December, 1905.

**PERU.**

Statistics of the mineral production of Peru in 1904, taken from the twenty-fourth annual report of the Peruvian Corps of Mining Engineers, give the following figures as representing the mineral and metallic output of the mines of the Republic in 1904, as compared with the preceding year:—

—						1903.	1904.
Coal	...	...	...	...	metric tons	—	42,920
Bituminous shale	...	...	...	...	"	—	16,000
Coke	...	...	...	...	"	—	1,000
Crude petroleum	...	...	...	...	"	37,079	38,683
Kerosene	...	...	...	...	...cubic metres	—	2,744
Gasoline	...	...	...	...	"	—	110
Benzine	...	...	...	...	"	—	50
Residuum	...	...	...	...	metric tons	—	4,000
Lead	...	...	...	...	"	1,302	2,209
Copper	...	...	...	...	"	9,497	9,504
Silver	...	...	...	...	kilos.	170,804	145,166
Gold	...	...	...	...	"	1,078	601
Borax	...	...	...	...	metric tons	2,466	2,675
Salt	...	...	...	...	"	17,637	18,545
Sulphur	...	...	...	...	"	—	21

A value of 6,662,910 dols. United States currency is assigned to the production in 1904.

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 27th January, 1906, were as follows:—

Wheat	...	...	...	...	28s.	7d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	25s.	1d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	18s.	7d.

For further particulars see p. 235.

A statement is published on p. 236, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 27th January, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

### RUSSIA.

The "Torgovo-Promuishlennaya Gazeta" of 3rd (16th) January publishes the following statistics, showing the quantity of the undermentioned kinds of grain exported from Russia during the year 1905 (old style), as compared with the three preceding years, viz.:—

—				1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
				1,000 pounds.	1,000 pounds.	1,000 pounds.	1,000 pounds.
Wheat	...	...	...	171,434	243,434	277,705	278,442
Rye	...	...	...	89,019	71,893	53,381	52,598
Barley	...	...	...	91,551	132,955	141,521	124,666
Oats	...	...	...	60,305	57,063	51,799	122,477
Maize	...	...	...	55,731	26,899	24,326	10,057
Total	...	...	...	468,040	532,244	548,732	588,240

### DENMARK.

H.M. Minister at Copenhagen (Sir A. Johnstone), in quoting from an article published in the semi-official "Dannebrog," says that the total value of agricultural produce exported from Denmark during 1905 amounted to 331,000,000 kroner (18,000,000*l.*).

The export of butter was less by 3,000,000 lbs. (Danish) in 1905 than in 1904, but the increased value of the milk and cream exported about neutralised the loss in butter. The export of eggs was about the same in 1905 as in 1904, viz., 21,000,000 score.

The export of pork amounted to 160,000,000 lbs. (Danish) in 1905, as compared with 185,000,000 lbs. in 1904, the diminution being partly due to an outbreak of swine fever. The quantity exported in 1905, however, exceeded that of 1903.

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*Agriculture.*

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From 3,000 to 4,000 more horses, about 32,000 more cattle and 6,000,000 lbs. more meat were exported in 1905 than in 1904. The total export of horses in 1905 amounted to 29,000; of cattle to 124,000, and of meat to 31,000,000 lbs. Nearly all the eggs, butter and pork went to England, whilst nearly all the horses, cattle and meat went to Germany.

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**SPAIN.**

The following particulars respecting the Spanish wheat crop for 1905 are extracted from a memorandum prepared by the Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy in Madrid (Mr. S. P. Cockerell):—

**Wheat Crop for 1905.** The total crop is estimated at 2,275,369,303 kilos. (45,507,386 cwts.), as compared with 2,595,734,700 kilos. (51,914,694 cwts.) for 1904. The average crop for the five years 1896 to 1900 was 2,654,021,829 kilos. (53,080,436 cwts.).

The best quality crops are reported from the Provinces of Alava, Orense, Oviedo, Segovia, and Zamorra, and the heaviest from Zamorra, Salamanca, Valladolid, and Jaen.

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**MISCELLANEOUS.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 25th January, 1906, was 84,253 (including 69 bales British West Indian and 59 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 4 weeks ended the 25th January was 530,464 (including 159 bales British West Indian and 80 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 25th January, 1906, 13,659 bales, and for the 4 weeks, 37,168.

For further details see p. 235.

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**CEYLON.**

With reference to the notice published on pp. 85-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th January, the "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 30th December contains a notification to the effect that a pearl fishery will take place at Marichchukkaddi, in the Island of Ceylon, on or about 20th February. The banks to be fished are:—

**Pearl Fishery, 1906.** The South-East Cheval, estimated to contain 6,500,000 oysters, sufficient to employ 100 boats for six days with average loads of 10,000 each per day;

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*Miscellaneous.*

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The Mid-West Cheval, estimated to contain 2,000,000 oysters, sufficient to employ 100 boats for two days with average loads of 10,000 oysters ;

The Muttuvaratu Paar, estimated to contain 16,000,000 oysters, sufficient to employ 100 boats for sixteen days with average loads as before stated ; each boat being fully manned with divers.

In addition there will be fished 990,000 oysters, estimated to be on the North Modaragam Paar, sufficient to employ 100 boats for one day. The valuation of these oysters was Rs. 8 per 1,000 at the inspection in February, 1905.

Fishing will begin on the first favourable day after 19th February. The fishery will be conducted on account of Government, and the oysters put up to sale in such lots as may be deemed expedient.

All communications regarding the fishery must be addressed to the Government Agent, Marichchukkaddi.

In connection with the foregoing announcement, it may be of interest to note that the "Gazette" of 5th January publishes the text of a Draft Ordinance **Proposed Lease of Pearl Fisheries.** "To confirm an Agreement for a Lease of Pearl Fisheries on the Coast of Ceylon, and to authorise the Crown Agents for the Colonies to execute such lease on behalf of the Government of Ceylon."

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**GERMANY—BAVARIA.**

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In his report on the trade of Bavaria for the year 1904 and part of 1905, H.M. Consul at Munich (Mr. L. Buchman) states that whilst the United Kingdom maintains 5, France 28, and Italy 21 **German Chambers of Commerce Abroad.** Commerce in foreign countries, Germany abolished in 1905 the two Chambers she possessed hitherto—one at Brussels, the other at Bucharest. The Imperial German Government refused further financial aid, and are now instituting commercial advisory boards at the Consulates, to the great dissatisfaction of the Bavarian Chambers of Commerce, especially that of Nüremberg, the members of which assert that the Brussels Chamber rendered great services in matters of export.

In the same report, H.M. Consul states that the Carbide Syndicate having been dissolved in 1904, prices of that **Carbide Syndicate:** product sank at once. Although more carbide was consumed in 1904 than in 1903, yet the **Acetylene Gas Industry.** Bavarian carbide industry suffered from keen Swiss and Austro-Hungarian competition.

The use of acetylene for lighting smaller towns and country railway stations is on the increase in Bavaria, the gas being cheap. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,526.*)

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*Miscellaneous.***SPAIN.**

The following particulars respecting the tanning of sheep pelts in Spain are extracted from reports which have been received from H.M. Consular Officers in the districts named :—

**Tanning of Sheep Pelts.**

In Bilbao and district it appears that several tanning yards have gone out of existence owing to their old methods having been superseded by the modern practices now more or less generally introduced all over the country.

Important yards exist in Haro (Logroño), also in Medina de Pomar and Valladolid, which supply Madrid with pelts.

Villaramiel (Valencia) is chiefly noted for sheep pelts, Gandia (Valencia) turns out about 8,000 tanned pelts a month, and in Valencia itself the dressing of sheep pelts is said to be of considerable importance.

Catalonia is the most important province as regards tanning methods and quantities. Native skins are used locally in preference to foreign hides, but the native supply has to be reinforced by foreign importation. Catalonia, however imports all skins tanned there. Pine tan, oak or green oak is used.

In Corunna district, old methods have reduced the tanning of sheep pelts to one-sixth of its previous importance, and the annual production is only 6,000.

Barcelona turns out about 100 dozen tanned pelts daily.

In the district round Palma (Majorca), the dressing of sheep pelts is said to be of considerable importance.

At Gerona, although no tanning is done, 15,000 to 16,000 raw skins are sold per annum.

At Seville the industry is a decaying one, local production having to encounter keen competition from imported dressed sheep skins. It is said that hides from Southern Spain do not command a market in the United Kingdom on account of their being too thin.

In the Cadiz district very little attention is paid to the industry.

**ITALY.**

The "Bollettino" also states that at a conference of representatives of Italian breweries recently held at Milan, the formation of a company to absorb all the breweries in the country was decided upon. Steps are about to be taken with a view to securing the adhesion to the trust of the breweries not represented at the conference.

**Proposed Beer Trust.****UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

In a recent memorandum by the British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell), it is reported that a new company, with a capital of 100,000,000 dollars, is being formed in order to combine several of the glucose manufacturing concerns at present in existence in the country.

**New Glucose Combine.**

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*Miscellaneous.*

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It is said that the new concern will own at least a majority of the capital stock of the Corn Products Company, known as the Glucose Trust, and the entire capital stock of the New York Glucose Company not already acquired by the Corn Products Company, the Warner Sugar Refining Company, of Waukegan, Ill., and the St. Louis Syrup and Preserving Company, of St. Louis, Mo. This amalgamation will, to a great extent, do away with the cutting of prices which has been so prevalent lately.

The new company will have a net working capital of about 5,000,000 dollars.

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**MEXICO.**

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 23rd December contains the text of a Law authorising the Exchange and Currency Commission to issue certificates in exchange for gold in bars or in foreign currency received from private individuals for the purposes of coinage, and to accept, when it is thought desirable, silver dollars in exchange for gold coined or in bars. Gold bars or coins presented for the issue of certificates will be valued at the rate of 1 dol. per 75 centigrammes of pure gold; foreign coins will only be accepted at their actual weight and when, according to the currency laws of the country of their origin, they are required to have a fineness of nine hundred thousandths or more of pure gold. The certificates will be payable at sight and to bearer, unless the person interested prefers to have them made payable to order, in which case an endorsement is necessary when they are transferred. They will be issued for the value of 1,000 dols. each, or for exact multiples of that amount, except in the case of certificates payable to order, which will be made out for any other sum in excess of 1,000 dols., according to the wish of the person interested. At the option of the Commission, the refund of the certificates may be in Mexican or foreign gold currency, or in gold bars, at the rate of 75 centigrammes of pure gold per dollar.

The Commission is bound always to keep in the Mexican National Bank or some other credit institution of the first order, an amount of gold currency or bars at least equal to the value of the certificates in circulation, so that these documents may always be cashed on presentation. A certificate, when once cashed, is to be cancelled; it can, for no reason whatsoever, be re-issued.

The certificates will be voluntary tender, and will be reckoned as part of the metallic reserves of the banks and other credit institutions possessing them.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Miscellaneous.***CUBA.**

The following particulars of the foreign trade of Cuba during the year 1904, as compared with the preceding year, are extracted from the supplementary report by the Acting British Consul-General at Havana (Mr. G. W. E. Griffith):—

**Imports.**

Groups of Articles.	Value.		Per cent.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£		
Provisions and liquors ... ..	4,192,067	4,795,118	33	31
Textile goods ... ..	2,150,993	2,711,867	17	17 $\frac{3}{4}$
Metals and manufactures of, including machinery ... ..	1,614,791	2,240,703	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Live-stock ... ..	1,253,039	1,559,428	10	10
Drugs and chemicals... ..	923,978	916,833	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	6
Leather and manufactures of ... ..	563,412	733,720	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Wood ... ..	570,898	737,346	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Glass, earthenware, stone, cement, &c. ...	282,396	377,419	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Paper ... ..	267,283	273,446	2	2
Coal ... ..	416,147	358,215	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
All other articles ... ..	457,882	701,568	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total ... ..	12,692,886	15,405,663	...	...

**Exports.**

Articles.	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Sugar and its products ... ..	8,388,191	11,113,952
Tobacco and its products ... ..	5,208,464	4,991,535
Fruits ... ..	442,700	528,559
Woods ... ..	437,922	341,079
Mineral products, ores, &c. ... ..	384,978	289,179
Honey and wax ... ..	151,861	141,286
Cacao ... ..	121,397	128,409
Sponges... ..	84,687	68,597
Hides ... ..	55,320	53,927
Fibre ... ..	33,643	21,821
Miscellaneous ... ..	143,004	124,205
Total merchandise ... ..	15,452,167	17,802,549
Bullion and specie ... ..	245,115	193,079
Total exports ... ..	15,697,282	17,995,628

(Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,522.)

*Miscellaneous.***BRAZIL.**

With reference to the statement on p. 138 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 19th October last, the following particulars of the principal articles exported from Brazil during the nine months ending September, 1904 and 1905, have been extracted from the "Brazilian Review" of the 26th December:—

Merchandise.	Quantity.		Value.	
	9 months, 1904.	9 months, 1905.	9 months, 1904.	9 months, 1905.
			£	£
Coffee ... .. bags	6,689,703	6,649,807	13,125,911	13,339,912
Rubber ... .. kilos.	22,831,096	25,624,848	7,774,612	10,373,216
Hides and skins ... .. "	29,827,932	23,305,239	1,924,759	1,452,303
Herva-mate ... .. "	32,618,745	27,507,393	718,110	790,923
Tobacco ... .. "	21,806,457	18,709,218	768,131	769,488
Cocoa ... .. "	16,732,599	12,659,526	789,076	602,108
Cotton ... .. "	10,589,643	11,770,007	700,052	532,862
Gold, bar... .. gram.	3,259,587	3,039,680	352,032	329,274
Sugar ... .. kilos.	2,702,958	24,079,346	26,740	308,928
Manganese ... .. tons	138,419	191,263	203,199	283,708
Para nuts ... .. hect.	92,533	197,887	107,280	231,745
Carnauba wax ... .. kilos.	1,765,298	1,485,218	184,706	156,191
Bran ... .. "	16,340,898	19,284,482	65,680	124,101
Cotton seed ... .. "	18,646,711	32,550,990	62,723	95,272
Monazite sand ... .. "	3,259,880	3,264,790	73,025	74,120
Flour manioc or cassiava .. "	2,845,723	4,255,749	28,938	62,509
Fruits ... .. "	—	—	33,093	50,675
Stones, precious ... .. "	—	—	54,996	48,639
Piassava ... .. kilos.	1,105,620	996,152	32,884	30,307
Lumber ... .. "	—	—	60,516	28,978
Other articles ... .. "	—	—	358,527	310,517
Total value of merchandise...	—	—	27,444,990	29,995,771
Specie... .. "	—	—	4,664	3,224
Grand total ....	—	—	27,449,654	29,998,995

**PERU.**

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Minister at Lima (Mr. W. N. Beauclerk) reports that the Peruvian Government have concluded arrangements with the newly established branch of the German Transatlantic Bank in Lima, for the loan of 600,000*l.* which have been sanctioned by Congress. Of this amount the Government will receive 540,000*l.* the interest to be paid being at the rate of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The security given is the collection of the salt tax, hitherto a Government monopoly, which will serve for the payment of the interest and principal according to the terms of the contract. The Bank is forming a new company for the administration of the salt revenue, the expense of which is fixed at 20,000*l.* per annum.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 4 Weeks ended 25th January, 1906 :—

	Week ended 25th Jan., 1906.	4 Weeks ended 25th Jan., 1906.	Week ended 25th Jan., 1906.	4 Weeks ended 25th Jan., 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	51,524	414,285	10,368	18,076
Brazilian ... ..	3,900	33,180	—	400
East Indian ... ..	1,595	10,762	110	4,427
Egyptian ... ..	25,464	65,778	3,106	13,700
Miscellaneous ... ..	1,770*	6,459†	75	565
Total ... ..	84,253	530,464	13,659	37,168

\* Including 69 bales British West Indian and 59 bales British West African.

† " 159 " " " " 80 " " "

### Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 27th January, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

		Average Price.					
		Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
Week ended 27th January, 1906 ... ..		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
		28	7	25	1	18	7
Corresponding week in—							
1899 ... ..		26	6	27	2	17	0
1900 ... ..		25	8	25	4	16	6
1901 ... ..		26	7	25	7	17	8
1902 ... ..		27	4	26	7	20	2
1903 ... ..		25	4	24	3	17	0
1904 ... ..		26	11	22	3	15	8
1905 ... ..		30	6	25	1	16	7

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

# Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 27th January, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 27th Jan., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	7,325	12,019
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	341	7,899
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	313	245
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	95,443	41,956
Mutton ... ..	"	58,835	49,174
Pork ... ..	"	16,138	17,253
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	110,449	103,517
Beef ... ..	"	3,110	1,325
Hams ... ..	"	26,026	20,716
Pork ... ..	"	3,423	4,304
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	11,156	9,333
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	25,320	24,180
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	90,067	95,306
Margarine ... ..	"	22,095	17,683
Cheese ... ..	"	37,632	30,823
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	4	6
" cream ... ..	"	62	108
" condensed ... ..	"	17,078	17,082
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	41	3
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hndr.	273,983	202,836
Poultry ... ..	Value £	30,190	23,363
Game ... ..	"	1,711	3,590
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	6,689	5,394
Lard ... ..	"	39,831	40,284
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,417,700	1,755,000
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	224,400	233,800
Barley ... ..	"	275,400	506,700
Oats ... ..	"	97,800	271,300
Peas ... ..	"	16,230	30,720
Beans ... ..	"	10,880	34,780
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	1,094,600	1,251,200
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	84,524	98,928
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	20	12
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	81,316	83,044
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	209	155
Lemons ... ..	"	21,711	19,458
Oranges ... ..	"	202,927	277,175
Pears ... ..	"	391	116
Plums ... ..	"	39	8
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	1,212	2,923
Hay... ..	Tons.	2,504	1,764
Straw ... ..	"	1,742	3,306
Moss Litter ... ..	"	1,273	1,592
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	5,209	1,189
Locust Beans ... ..	"	5,461	34,010
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	218,216	102,943
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	15,304	36,219
Tomatoes ... ..	"	10,503	10,413
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	7,969	7,477
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>			
Preserved by canning... ..	Cwts.	5,906	4,418
	"	6,828	4,646

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of December, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 1d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the January issue:—State of the Labour Market in December; Employment in 1905; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1905; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1904; and Wages and Hours of Labour in Hungary.

### OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

*Report of H.M. Commissioners for the International Exhibition, St. Louis, 1904. [Cd. 2,800.] Price 2s. 2d.*

This publication contains, in addition to the general report of H.M. Commissioners on the St. Louis Exhibition, detailed reports by the chairmen of the various committees on the British exhibits in each section of the Exhibition, reports by the British jurors on the exhibits shown by various countries in the sections which they were elected to judge, and a complete list of awards to British exhibitors and collaborators.

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes :—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*March, 1905.*

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

February 8, 1906.

[No. 480

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 292.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woolen hosiery sold in compe- tition with British in ... } Tientsin	14th Dec., 1905	509
... } Shanghai	5th Oct., 1905	10
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 293.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

(1) Wheels and axles; (2) Buffers for wagons; (3) Bearing springs for wagons; (4) Spiral and volute

Railway  
Material.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **BRITISH INDIA—continued.**

springs for wagons. The Conditions of Contract may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 20th February, after which time no tender will be received.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of cast-iron plates and jaws for Denham-Olpherts sleepers, as per specification to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C. Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Sleepers," not later than noon, on Wednesday, the 14th February. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot in any circumstances be returned.

The South Indian Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of—

- Rolling Stock, &c.** 1. Rolling stock.—100 covered steel goods wagons, and five goods brake vans ;  
2. Wheels and axles.—210 pairs ;  
3. Laminated bearing springs.—Number 420.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's offices, 55, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C. Tenders, addressed to the Chairman and Directors of the South Indian Railway Company, Limited, marked "Tender for Rolling Stock," or as the case may be, must be left with the Managing Director not later than noon on Tuesday, the 20th February, 1906. The Company are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender. A charge, which will not be returned, will be made of 20*s.* for each copy of specification (1), and of 10*s.* for each copy of (2) and (3). Copies of the drawings may be obtained at the office of Sir George B. Bruce, 3, Victoria Street, Westminster, on payment of 5*s.* per sheet.

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### **CANADA.**

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained :—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm of importers and exporters are prepared to undertake the buying, inspection and shipment of goods for large Canadian business houses requiring such services.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**CANADA**—*continued.*

The manufacturers of steam motor wagons desirous of opening up a trade in Canada are seeking a good agent. The machines can be used as feeders to railways and by farmers for driving agricultural machines, threshers, &c.

A London firm, packing a number of classes of goods interesting to grocers, &c., are looking out for Canadian representatives to push the sale of various specialities.

A Scotch firm have asked to be placed in communication with reliable agents in Montreal and Toronto having a knowledge of the linen and jute trade.

Enquiry is made for the names of Canadian firms in a position to export to London compressed fibre, for which there is a considerable demand.

A London house are desirous of getting into communication with reliable firms in Canada who are prepared to take up an agency for motor tyres.

An important London firm in the wholesale grocery, wine and spirit trade are prepared to appoint a firm in Canada to act as their agents for wines and spirits.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Montreal manufacturer's agent is seeking the agency of an English house manufacturing rabbit skin lining for cheap garments.

A Nova Scotia firm dealing in large quantities of cod roes are seeking the names of importers in England and France requiring this class of goods, shipped in barrels containing 250 lbs.

A Winnipeg broker is seeking the agency for Western Canada of English exporters of tin, ingot tin, pig lead, lithographed tin plate, salt for use in pork and other factories.

Enquiry is made by a Canadian correspondent respecting tin can making machinery for export to Canada.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Enquiries relating Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information to Canadian Trade. regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A North country firm invite quotations from Canadian manufacturers of tool, hay fork and shovel handles.

A London firm ask to be placed in correspondence with Canadian firms who can supply three ply veneer, in large quantities.

A London firm manufacturing tarpaulin cloths wish to get into communication with Canadian importers of these goods.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **CANADA—continued.**

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Canadian company wish to be placed in communication with United Kingdom manufacturers of dry colours suitable for printing and lithographic inks.

A manufacturers' agent in Vancouver, British Columbia, is prepared to undertake the representation for Western Canada of United Kingdom manufacturers of tweeds and cloths, also hosiery, underwear and similar goods.

A Canadian company about to commence the manufacture of wood spirit would be pleased to hear from a reliable United Kingdom firm prepared to invest capital in the development of the undertaking.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### **SOUTH AFRICA.**

According to the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of the 12th January, sealed tenders, addressed to the Chairman of the Tender Board, marked "Tenders for Locks," will be received at the Controller and Auditor-General's Office, Parliament Street, Cape Town, until noon, on the 10th April, for the supply of 3 in. 4-lever brass cut cupboard locks, L. hand, with two keys each, no key to open two locks. A sample of the class of lock required may be inspected on application to the Controller of Stores, General Post Office, Cape Town, or the Agent-General for the Cape Colony, 100, Victoria Street, London, S.W. All tenderers must forward a sample lock, which should be addressed to the Controller of Stores, G.P.O., Cape Town. The locks are to be supplied in quantities of at least 200 at a time, and must be equal in every respect to the sample lock, including the position of keyhole. The contract is to commence on the 1st July, 1906, and to terminate on the 30th June, 1909, but either of the contracting parties will be at liberty to terminate the same on giving two months' notice, in writing, to that effect.

The same issue of the "Gazette" states that tenders will also be received at the office of the Chairman of the Tender Board, Control and Audit Office, Parliament Street, Cape Town, until noon on the 12th April for the supply of such sealing wax for mail bags, and brown paper, as may be required for the service of the Post Office, Department in Cape Town during the period 1st July, 1906, to 30th June, 1908.

The sealing wax is to be put up in 5 lb. packets labelled at end as to contents, and packed in barrels or cases, not more than four

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**SOUTH AFRICA**—*continued.*

dozen packets to be placed in one barrel or case : barrels or cases not to be charged for. (Estimated annual requirement 50,000 lbs., more or less.)

The brown paper is to be packed in bales.

Prices are to be quoted "in bond" at per 100 lbs. net for sealing wax, and at per ream for brown paper, as follows :—

(a) Delivered at any spot that may be desired within the Municipality of Cape Town ; or

(b) Over the ship's side, Alfred Docks, Cape Town. (Freight and all charges to be paid to Cape Town.)

The successful tenderer for the supply of wax will be required to effect delivery of the first consignment of 10,000 lbs. weight not later than the 28th July, 1906.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Each tender must be supported by the signatures of two approved persons willing to act as sureties for the due execution of the contract in the event of the offer being accepted either wholly or in part.

Samples of the wax and brown paper required to be supplied can be inspected at the Office of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope, 100, Victoria Street, London, S.W., and at the Office of the Controller of Stores, General Post Office, Cape Town, and specimens of the stores which tenderers are prepared to supply must be lodged with the Controller of Stores aforesaid. These specimens must be equal in all respects to the official samples.

In reply to an enquiry for particulars as to the specifications of bicycles suitable for South Africa, the Correspondent at Cape Town of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade (Mr. E. J. Cattell), states that the ordinary standard makes, with no special alterations, are said to have been found quite suitable for that market. He is informed, however, that the trade in bicycles in Cape Town and district scarcely exists at all. Importers and agents have stocks of the principal standard makes on their hands, and are unable to dispose of them. There appears, indeed, to be little demand for bicycles in any part of South Africa (except possibly Johannesburg). As a means of communication they are at a discount, on account of the ample facilities provided by train, tram, and motor bus. There formerly existed a good demand for bicycles in Johannesburg, due to insufficient facilities for communication with the surrounding suburbs, but these defects are now being remedied by the construction of an elaborate system of electric trams, &c., so that the necessity for bicycles will probably disappear.

Bicycles for the purposes of pleasure are little used, and there

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### SOUTH AFRICA—*continued.*

is no likelihood of any improvement in this respect in a country of great distances like South Africa; especially as the suburban communications are for the most part excellent, and the main roads comparatively uninviting to a cyclist.

As regards the trade in rickshaws in South Africa, Mr. Cattell states that the only two towns where these vehicles are used to any extent are Johannesburg and Durban. The number of rickshaws licensed in Johannesburg during 1905 was 400, about 80 less than in 1904. They are much less popular than they used to be, and, owing to many objections which have been raised, there is a disposition to do away with them altogether. There is every probability that the opening up of the electric tram line service will do much in that direction. Nearly all the rickshaws used in Johannesburg, as well as the rubber tyres, are obtained from firms in Durban.

### EGYPT.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a notification from the London Agent for the Egyptian War Office (Lieut.-Col. Western, R.E., C.M.G.), to the effect that tenders are invited for the supply to the Egyptian War Office of 40,000 Dundee flour sacks, to be delivered into the storeroom at the Tourah mills. Tenders will be received at the Financial Secretary's Office, Cairo, up to noon on the 6th March. Conditions of tender may be seen at Lieut.-Col. Western's Office, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

A further notification has been received from Lieut.-Col. Western to the effect that tenders are required by the Army Supplies: 27th February for the supply of articles of Clothing, &c. clothing and equipment, and materials for the manufacture of same, for the Egyptian Army. Samples and details may be obtained on application to Lieut.-Col. Western's office, as above.

### NORWAY.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) a notification to the effect that the following Norwegian contracts are publicly advertised as open to tender:—

1. Supply to the Drammen Waterworks of—
 

150 cast-iron socket pipes, 9 in. by 9 ft.
200       "       "       "       6   "   " 9   "

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **NORWAY**—*continued.*

Tenders in sealed envelopes, marked "Vandledningsrör," should be addressed to "Stadsingeniörkontoret, Drammen," where they will be received up to noon on the 13th February.

2. Supply to the Drammen Highway Board of—

200	glazed clay pipes,	18	in	by	2½	ft.
120	"	"	"	"	2½	"
500	"	"	"	"	2	"
300	"	"	"	"	2	"
6	branch pipes,	15	in.	by	6	in
10	"	"	"	"	2½	ft.
9	"	"	"	"	2	"

Sealed tenders, marked "Kloakrör," should be sent to the same address where they will be received up to the same date as above.

A copy (in Norwegian) of the conditions of tender of each of the above contracts has been received from the British Vice-Consul at Drammen, and may be seen at the offices of the Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Acting British Consul-General has also forwarded a copy of a notice inviting tenders, which will be received up to 3 p.m. on the 2nd March, for the supply to the Norwegian State Railways of 260 truck tarpaulins and 1,900 metres of hemp cloth of various widths. The Acting Consul-General states that such further particulars and samples as he is able to obtain will be forwarded in due course.

NOTE.—Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts, it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

### **SWEDEN.**

The "Tidning för Leveranser Till Staten" (supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar") for the 30th

**Railway Stores.** January, contains a notice calling for tenders for certain quantities of various descriptions of lead, glass for signals, windows, drinking glasses, carafes, white lead, red lead, lamp black, zinc white, and other goods for the use of the State Railways.

Tenders must be sent in to the Registrar of the Railway Administration, Stockholm, before mid-day on February 24th. Further particulars, together with a list of the articles required and quantities, may be obtained on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whilst specifications, forms of tender and contract, may be obtained at the Stores Office of the Swedish State Railways Administration, Central Station, Stockholm.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### SWEDEN—*continued.*

The same publication contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Swedish Army Administration of  
**Army Supplies.** 500 pairs of double-iron beds, certain fur garments, 6,000 pairs of gloves of cavalry pattern and 20,000 pairs of infantry pattern. Tenders for the whole or part of this contract must be sent in to the Swedish Army Stores Office, Skeppsholmen, Stockholm, by mid-day on 15th February, marked on the outside with the designation of the articles tendered for. Samples may be seen at the offices referred to, and further particulars, as contained in the notice, may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch.

The same publication contains a further notice calling for tenders for 2,100 tons of best South Yorkshire hard  
**Steam Coal.** steam coal, Manvers, Mitchell, Wombwell, Darfield, Hickleton, Stavely or Shirebrook, for the Norrköping-Söderköping-Vikbolan Railway. Tenders must be sent in to the Managing Director of the Railway, Count Nils Cronstedt, Norrköping, by 20th February,

### DENMARK.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul at Copenhagen  
**Railway Trucks.** (Captain Boyle), translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Ostre and Valby Gasworks of 30 railway trucks of normal gauge, each to carry 10 tons of coal, in accordance with conditions which may be obtained from the office of the gasworks. Tenders, addressed to the Director of the Copenhagen Lighting Department, 22, Vestre Boulevard, Copenhagen, will be received up to noon on the 26th February.

### NETHERLANDS.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) announces that the "Landbowvereeniging," Siddeburen, invites tenders, which will be opened on 15th February, for the supply of 13,700 kilogs. of Chili saltpetre (15.5 per cent.); 16,500 kilogs. of superphosphates (18 per cent.); 19,600 kilogs. of potassium, chloride of chalk, &c. Conditions may be had from the Secretary to the "Landbowvereeniging."

### BELGIUM.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) a notification to the effect that the date for receiving tenders for supplying heating apparatus for the new Flemish theatre in course of

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### BELGIUM—*continued.*

construction there (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 18th January, p. 102) has been extended from 15th February to the 2nd March next. A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 27th January contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply of 15  
**Locomotive Turntables.** turntables of 18½ metres in diameter for locomotives (see p. 53 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th January). Tenders will be opened on 7th March, at the Bourse, Brussels. Particulars (*avis spécial de 1906*) may be obtained from "M. De Rudder, Administrateur des Voies et Travaux, 11, rue de Louvain, Brussels."

### SWITZERLAND.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" of 31st January announces that the Swiss Federal Council have granted the  
**Dredging Apparatus.** Government of the Canton of Valais a subsidy of 10,000 fr. (about 400*l.*) towards the purchase of a dredger with accessories, for use on the Rhône; the total cost is estimated at 25,000 fr. (about 1,000*l.*).

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) reports that the Municipality of Schaffhausen will shortly invite  
**Electrical Plant.** tenders for the improvement of the town electric generating station, and the erection of high pressure turbines, at a cost of 1,140,000 fr. (about 45,600*l.*).

### SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 30th January, contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on  
**Wharf Construction.** 6th March, at the Directorate General of Public Works, Madrid, for the construction of a wharf at the port of Bilbao, in accordance with plans, &c., on view at the above-mentioned office, at the estimated cost of 400,602 pesetas (about 12,965*l.*). A deposit of 10,000 pesetas (about 309*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 2nd February contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the Chief  
**Sulphate of Copper.** Telegraph Office, 10 Carretas, Madrid, for the supply of 20 tons of sulphate of copper, at the maximum price of 950 pesetas (about 30*l.*) per ton, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta." A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods tendered for will be required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**SPAIN**—*continued.*

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains the text of a concession granted to the "Sociedad Minera y Metalúrgica de Peñarroya," for the construction and working of a narrow-gauge railway between Llerena, Province of Badajoz, and Linares, Province of Jaén.

**Railway Plant.**

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**ITALY.**

The "Gazetta Ufficiale" of 31st January contains the text of a concession granted to M. Hector Legru, 11, rue Louis le Grand, Paris, for the construction and working of a railway (steam traction) between Cancellò and Benevento.

**Steam Railway Plant.**

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" reports that the Teramo Provincial Council have petitioned the Italian Government for a subsidy, with a view to constructing an electric railway between Montesilvano and Penne.

**Electric Railway Plant.**

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**SERVIA.**

The British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Hon. W. G. Thesiger, D.S.O.) states that a Belgrade firm desire to be brought into communication with a British firm capable of supplying a stone borer, driven by gasoline, with a portable gas container weighing not more than 182 kilos. and using not more than 13 litres of gasoline for 10 hours' work.

**Gasoline-driven Stone Borer.**

Communications should be addressed to the British Vice-Consul, Belgrade.

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**CHILE.**

Adverting to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th May, 1905, p. 343, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Minister at Valparaiso (Mr. A. S. Raikes) a telegram to the effect that the date for opening tenders for the Valparaiso Harbour Works has been postponed from the 2nd April until 25th April next. Plans and particulars may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**Harbour Works at Valparaiso.**

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### *Openings for British Trade.*

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#### COLOMBIA.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Bogotá (Mr. S. S. Dickson) forwarding copy of a letter from a firm, recently established in that city, who are engaged in the import, manufacture and repair of all classes of carts and carriages, harness and saddlery, and of all classes of machinery connected with industrial enterprises. This firm ask for information from British exporters as to weights, packing, prices and freights, to the coast of Colombia, on all kinds of machinery connected with the manufacture of sugar, farming, road-making, pumping, mining and smelting of minerals, and all classes of manufactured articles in metal, adaptable to the country; also on landaus, coaches, victorias, carriages, carts and wagons for trade; leather belting and leather for carriage and saddle making; cloth and varnish for coaches, engines and boilers; steel and iron for working; machines for making starch of yucca and for cleaning and working "fique," agave, and manilla.

Communications should be addressed to H.M. Chargé d'Affaires, Bogotá.

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#### FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

##### RUSSIA.

With reference to the notice on pp. 296-7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 17th August, 1905, H.M. Consul at St. Petersburg (Mr. O. Wardrop) states that he has received a communication from the Commissioner-General of the International Exhibition of leather, furs, feathers, down and manufactures thereof, which was intended to be opened in St. Petersburg in December last, to the effect that the Exhibition has been postponed until November of the present year.

Applications from intending exhibitors will continue to be received by the Commissioner-General, and those already submitted will still remain in force.

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##### NETHERLANDS.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Acting British Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. F. A. Chambers), particulars of an Exhibition which is to be held at Leeuwarden, in the Province of Friesland, from the 6th July to 14th August next. The Exhibition will comprise the following groups:—

Machinery and implements of industry on a small scale; tools and implements not driven by machinery; industrial products

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### NETHERLANDS—*continued.*

fishery; art, and industrial art; housing; education; means of transport; sport; and nursing appliances.

Applications for space must be received before the 15th March. A translation of the programme of the Exhibition may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Acting British Consul also reports that the Amsterdam Department of the Colonial Museum at Haarlem are exhibiting, during the first quarter of the present year, certain products in the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Bureau, Oudebrugsteeg, Amsterdam, among which may be noted the following:—

Mendong fibre (*Fimbristyles globulosa*) and netting made from it in Java; *Cananga odorata*—Volatile oil (kananga perfume); East Indian ramie, treated in various ways by machinery; Surinam ramie, in the raw state (so called "Rohramio"); Surinam cocoa with the theobromine made from the same, and other important descriptions of cocoa for comparison; a collection of varieties of Natal tea.

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that a general Exhibition of Hygiene will be held at Vienna from 12th May to 15th July, 1906.

**Exhibition of  
Hygiene at  
Vienna, 1906.**

This Exhibition will comprise, in addition to articles specially connected with hygiene, exhibits connected with sports and games, means of communication, arrangement of houses, health resorts, foodstuff industries, and clothing from the hygienic point of view.

### ROUMANIA.

With reference to the notices on p. 438 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th December, and p. 582 of the "Journal" of 28th December, respecting a National Exhibition to be held in Bucharest from 1st/14th June to 1st/14th December, 1906, it is noted that according to the "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels), in addition to the class of goods previously mentioned, exhibits of the following kind are invited from foreign traders:—Boring machinery and all other kinds of articles required in the petroleum industry; all kinds of machinery for raising water; arms of every description; cutlery and garden implements; artificial fertilisers.

## BRITISH COMMERCIAL ATTACHE AT PEKING.

With reference to the notice on page 586 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th December last, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Peking (Sir E. M. Satow, G.C.M.G.), reporting that Mr. Alexander Hosie arrived at Peking on the 4th December last, and took up his duties as Commercial Attaché to H.M. Legation there. Mr. Hosie has taken charge of the Commercial Attaché's archives at Shanghai, and transferred them to Peking.

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CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY TRADE ACCOUNTS  
FOR 1906.

The Board of Trade desire to direct attention to the fact that several important changes have been introduced into the statements relating to imports and exports in the "Monthly Accounts of Trade and Navigation" for 1906. A comparison of the Accounts for January with those issued during each month of 1905 will show that the changes made, so far as they relate to the specification of new headings or to changes in previously existing ones, are as follow:—

## I.—IMPORT SECTION OF THE ACCOUNTS.

In Group I. of this section relating to imports of "Food, Drink and Tobacco," the total value of "fruit—non-dutiable" is now shown. New headings have been raised for "lard, imitation lard," and for the following cognate articles of sugar, viz:—"confectionery, including chocolate confectionery," "fruit preserved with sugar, and jam," and "other articles of food containing sugar" the latter to include caramel, chutney, ginger preserved in sugar or syrup, milk powder, Nestles, Soy, and other preparations made with added sugar, &c. The heading for "cocoa, prepared" has been changed to "cocoa or chocolate, ground, prepared or in any way manufactured (except confectionery containing chocolate)."

In Group II., the imports of "cotton, raw," by countries have been re-arranged so as to separately distinguish the imports from British Possessions, and headings have been raised for "British Africa," and "British West Indies." A new heading has been raised for "wool waste" in Section F, formerly included together with "wool flocks" in "other articles" in this section. "Wool flocks" now appears with a separate heading in Group III., Section H<sub>2</sub>. The imports of linseed oil have been sub-divided to show "pure" and "not pure" separately, and in the same section (H) a new heading has been raised for "soap stock," formerly included with "soap stock and powder" in Group III.

In Group III., "Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured," the imports of "iron and steel manufactures unenumerated," have been sub-divided so as to show separately "wire (including

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*Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1906.*

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telegraph and telephone wire)," "tubes and pipes and fittings, wrought," and "pipes and fittings, cast." Section D. of this Group, which formerly related to "telegraph cables and apparatus" only, has been altered to "electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and telegraph and telephone wire)," and now includes, besides telegraph cables, &c., all electrical goods formerly classed together in Section N. New sub-headings have been raised for "electric wires and cables, insulated," "telegraph and telephone apparatus," and "electrical goods and apparatus unenumerated," the first-named being still further sub-divided so as to show separately the imports of "rubber, insulated, (other than telegraph and telephone cables)," "insulations other than rubber (not being telegraph and telephone cables)," and "telegraph and telephone cables." In Section N a new heading has been raised for "machinery belting," which is sub-divided to show "leather belting" from "other sorts," leather belting being formerly included in "leather manufactures unenumerated." A new heading has also been raised in this section for "oil-cloth" with sub-divisions to show whether for "floor coverings," "furniture coverings," or "other purposes." Formerly this was included with "other articles" in the same section. Additional information is also given under the headings of "grain and flour," and "bullion" in respect of the countries from which imported.

## II.—SECTION RELATING TO EXPORTS OF BRITISH AND IRISH PRODUCE.

In this Section of the Accounts, besides various additions as regards the statement of countries to which goods are exported, and a few minor changes, the following alterations are noticeable:—

In Group I. the heading for meat has been sub-divided so as to show separately the exports of "fresh," "salted," and "preserved otherwise than by salting," whilst "salted" is further sub-divided to show "bacon and hams" from "other sorts." The heading for "pickles, sauces, and condiments (including chutney)," has also been sub-divided, new headings being raised for "pickles and vegetables preserved in salt or vinegar" quantity as well as value being shown, and "chutney and sauces or condiments unenumerated, sweetened or unsweetened (including table salt)." The quantity as well as the value is now shown in the export of "fish, fresh and cured, other sorts," and, as in the case of imports, a new heading has been raised for "lard, imitation lard" showing both quantity and value. The exports of "tobacco (and snuff)" have been re-classified, and now show "tobacco made in bond" and "tobacco not made in bond." The former has sub-headings for "cavendish (except cigarettes)" and "cigarettes," and the latter for

*Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1906.*

"cigarettes," "other kinds (except snuff offal, &c.)" and "snuff offal (including snuff, &c., denatured) stalks and shorts."

In Group II., "waste wool" is now shown separately; it was formerly included with "flocks" in Group III. The exports of "linseed oil" are divided up to distinguish "pure" from "not pure," and "soap stock" is separated from "soap stock and powder," so that in each case they correspond with the import classification.

As regards Group III., the heading for "wire" (including "telegraph wire") has been enlarged to include also "telephone wire," and that for "telegraph cables and apparatus" has been revised to correspond with the new classification in the import section. Similarly a new heading has been raised for "machinery belting," and the former heading of "oil and floor cloth" has been altered to "oil cloth" with the same sub-headings as in imports.

### III.—SECTION RELATING TO EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE.

In this Section the changes in classification are mainly on the lines of those indicated in the import section.

## FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN JANUARY, 1906.\*

### I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for January, 1906, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1905, show increases in the value of the **Imports** into, and also in the value of the **Exports** from the United Kingdom, both of British produce and of Foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the **Imports** in January, 1906, was 53,475,830*l.*, an increase of 5,709,370*l.*, or 11·9 per cent., as compared with January, 1905, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 38,220,666*l.*, or an increase of 7,117,002*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 5,785,034*l.*, or 23·1 per cent., as compared with January, 1905, whilst there is an increase of 1,331,968*l.*, or 21·8 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

### II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for January, 1906, as compared with the corresponding months of 1905 and 1904, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

\* Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1906," published at pp. 253-5 for information as to the changes which have been made in these accounts

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1906.***Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.\***

	Month ended 31st January.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1906 as compared with 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1906 as compared with 1904.	
	1904.	1905.	1906.			
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>	£	£	£	£	£	
A. Grain and flour ... ..	5,242,284	5,074,277	5,231,486	+	137,209	
B. Meat, including animals for food. ...	4,058,385	4,081,245	4,426,360	+	315,115	
C. Other food and drink—						
1. Non-dutiable ... ..	4,979,272	5,130,643	5,876,897	+	746,254	
2. Dutiable ... ..	3,409,391	4,046,457	3,808,976	—	237,481	
D. Tobacco ... ..	417,442	406,286	362,158	—	41,128	
Total, Class I. ...	£ 18,106,757	18,738,908	19,705,877	+	966,969	
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>						
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel ...	808	1,002	7,034	+	6,032	
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	369,529	472,305	609,174	+	138,869	
C. Other metallic ores... ..	659,004	704,956	715,582	+	10,626	
D. Wood and timber ... ..	1,039,015	737,851	1,109,761	+	371,910	
E. Cotton ... ..	6,760,210	6,154,412	7,883,575	+	1,729,163	
F. Wool ... ..	2,400,944	3,298,774	3,626,388	+	327,611	
G. Other textile materials ... ..	1,713,785	1,658,047	1,613,513	—	44,534	
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums ... ..	2,161,806	1,819,173	1,956,683	+	137,510	
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	546,213	631,194	812,043	+	180,849	
J. Materials for paper making ...	283,815	273,744	336,163	+	62,419	
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,773,244	1,868,490	1,750,319	—	118,171	
Total, Class II. ...	£ 17,708,373	17,619,948	20,420,232	+	2,800,284	
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>						
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	622,523	646,697	941,905	+	298,208	
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	1,480,647	1,725,075	2,282,927	+	557,852	
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	290,421	279,304	308,379	+	29,075	
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and tele. graph and telephone wire) ...	78,423	82,309	104,842	+	22,533	
E. Machinery ... ..	306,533	332,846	377,087	+	44,241	
F. Ships (new) ... ..	387	517	60	—	457	
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	163,579	141,478	148,497	+	7,019	
<b>II. Yarns and textile fabrics—</b>						
1. Cotton ... ..	553,939	628,252	846,456	+	218,204	
2. Wool ... ..	890,967	1,062,003	1,139,310	+	77,307	
3. Other materials ... ..	1,557,914	1,596,576	1,781,356	+	184,780	
I. Apparel ... ..	188,614	242,808	263,903	+	21,095	
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	612,907	745,719	830,250	+	84,531	
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves) ... ..	820,171	877,706	957,057	+	79,351	
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	329,520	325,965	367,007	+	41,042	
M. Paper... ..	376,882	410,052	478,752	+	68,700	
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,808,160	2,133,665	2,265,436	+	126,771	
Total, Class III. ...	£ 10,111,587	11,235,972	13,096,224	+	1,850,252	
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified     (including Parcel Post) £</b>	205,803	171,632	253,497	+	81,865	
Total value of Imports	£ 46,132,520	47,766,460	53,475,330	+	5,709,370	
					+	7,343,210

\*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of January, 1905, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1906.*

		Increases.	
		£	£
I.	A. { Wheat meal and flour ... ..	503,219	
		110,730	
	B. { Cattle, live ... ..	55,151	
		214,199	
		148,035	
		55,438	
		263,232	
		96,695	
		97,274	
	C1. { Fish, cured or salted ... ..	104,643	
		64,159	
		68,318	
	C2. { Tea ... ..	192,491	
	B. { Iron ore ... ..	135,115	
II.	D. { Wood and timber, hewn ... ..	108,661	
		240,373	
	E. { Cotton, raw ... ..	1,725,673	
	F. { Wool, sheep or lambs' ... ..	418,273	
	I. { Skins and furs, undressed ... ..	142,869	
	J. { Pulp of wood ... ..	63,927	
III.	A. { Steel ingots, blooms, billets, &c. ... ..	87,640	
	B. { Copper regulus and precipitate ... ..	109,192	
		336,837	
		104,582	
	E. { Machinery, not steam engines or electrical ... ..	71,331	
	H1. { Cotton yarns and fabrics ... ..	218,204	
	H3. { Woollen yarn for weaving ... ..	56,480	
		63,941	
	H3. { Jute manufactures ... ..	55,521	
		76,587	
IV.	K. { Leather ... ..	58,590	
	M. { Paper, including strawboard, mill-board, &c. ... ..	68,700	
	N. { Motor cars and parts thereof ... ..	125,804	
		60,317	

		Decreases.	
		£	£
I.	A. { Wheat ... ..	240,348	
		141,160	
		79,069	
	C1. { Oranges ... ..	50,044	
		265,316	
	C2. { Sugar, refined, and sugar candy ... ..	166,854	
		114,940	
	F. { Mohair ... ..	114,940	
	G. { Flax, dressed and undressed ... ..	65,555	
II.	cont { K. { Caoutchouc ... ..	216,614	
		58,471	
	A. { Iron and steel manufactures, unenumerated ... ..	53,274	
	B. { Copper unwrought and part wrought ... ..	93,844	

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versa*, may be noted, viz.:—

		Increase.	Decrease.
I.	A. { Offals of corn and grain, including rice meal ... ..	£11,406...	4,900 cwts.
	B. { Mutton, fresh ... ..	10,167 cwts. ...	£23,106
		£148,035...	355 cwts.
		173 cwts. ...	£4,567
	C1. { Mineral water ... ..	1,584 doz. bottles	£1,870
		234,052 bushels...	£3,007
		149,700 cwts. ...	£265,316
	C2. { " unrefined ... ..	443,928 " ...	£166,854
		£6,195...	847 tons.
	G. { Jute ... ..	£43,531...	5,479 "
II.	H. { Flax or linseed ... ..	£10,573...	10,450 quarters.
	J. { Esparto and other vegetable fibres ... ..	289 tons ...	£1,371
	K. { Phosphate of lime and rock ... ..	£5,222...	112 tons
	A. { Pig-iron ... ..	£3,242...	587 "
	C. { Watches ... ..	1,997 number.	£3,484
III.	E. { Electrical machinery of all kinds ... ..	£5,699...	124 tons.
	L. { Glass bottles ... ..	£1,596...	5,702 gross.
	N. { Skins and furs, dressed, unenumerated ... ..	168,171 number.	£2,940

**III.—EXPORTS.**

The following table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of January, 1906, as compared with the

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1906.*

corresponding month of 1905 and 1904, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

**Exports of British Produce.\***

	Month ended 31st January.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1906 as compared with 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1906 as compared with 1904.
	1904.	1905.	1906.		
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
A. Grain and flour ... ..	119,151	151,938	219,149	+ 67,211	+ 99,998
B. Meat, including animals for food	55,878	52,102	98,865	+ 46,763	+ 42,987
C. Other food and drink ... ..	935,375	990,949	1,106,449	+ 115,500	+ 171,074
D. Tobacco ... ..	62,429	80,740	85,618	+ 4,878	+ 23,189
Total, Class I. ...	£ 1,172,833	1,275,729	1,510,081	+ 234,352	+ 337,248
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke and manufactured fuel	1,995,249	1,976,733	2,272,831	+ 296,098	+ 277,582
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	35,947	28,941	46,735	+ 17,794	+ 10,788
O. Other metallic ores... ..	7,000	10,596	17,448	+ 6,852	+ 10,448
D. Wood and timber ... ..	3,384	6,901	5,727	— 1,174	+ 2,343
E. Cotton ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool ... ..	129,899	200,416	176,690	— 23,726	+ 46,791
G. Other textile materials ... ..	7,775	15,789	12,741	— 3,048	+ 4,966
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums... ..	215,111	172,247	209,480	+ 37,233	— 5,631
I. Hides and undressed skins ... ..	189,804	163,769	284,230	+ 120,461	+ 144,426
J. Materials for paper making ... ..	34,512	43,275	54,479	+ 11,204	+ 19,967
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	159,178	190,168	182,705	— 7,463	+ 23,527
Total, Class II. ...	£ 2,727,859	2,808,835	3,263,066	+ 454,231	+ 535,207
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	2,317,842	2,304,963	3,066,922	+ 761,959	+ 749,080
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	516,952	548,812	806,703	+ 257,891	+ 289,751
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	388,169	390,729	481,955	+ 91,226	+ 93,786
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and tele- graph and telephone wires) ... ..	229,936	116,061	303,130	+ 187,069	+ 73,194
E. Machinery ... ..	1,441,770	1,597,112	2,140,958	+ 543,846	+ 699,188
F. Ships (new) ... ..	214,266	127,576	198,238	+ 70,662	— 16,028
G. Manufactures of wood and tim- ber (including furniture) ... ..	109,529	109,143	125,860	+ 16,717	+ 16,331
H. Yarns and textile fabrics— 1. Cotton... ..	6,937,380	7,301,359	8,748,913	+ 1,447,554	+ 1,811,533
2. Wool ... ..	2,501,571	2,809,936	3,181,894	+ 371,958	+ 680,323
3. Other materials ... ..	1,102,712	1,029,168	1,226,363	+ 197,195	+ 123,651
I. Apparel ... ..	580,029	496,894	673,374	+ 176,480	+ 93,345
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	1,103,789	1,183,714	1,311,406	+ 127,692	+ 207,617
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves) ... ..	339,413	416,026	502,544	+ 86,518	+ 163,131
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	219,751	250,251	295,214	+ 44,963	+ 75,463
M. Paper... ..	147,248	157,593	177,416	+ 19,823	+ 30,168
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,700,137	1,712,031	2,359,093	+ 647,062	+ 658,956
Total, Class III. ...	£ 19,850,494	20,551,368	25,599,983	+ 5,048,615	+ 5,749,489
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassi- fied (including Parcel Post) £</b>	332,179	353,845	401,681	+ 47,836	+ 69,502
Total value of Exports of British produce ...	£ 24,083,365	24,989,777	30,774,811	+ 5,785,034	+ 6,691,446

**Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.**

Total value... ..	£ 5,712,000	£ 6,113,887	£ 7,445,855	+ 1,331,968	+ 1,733,855
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\* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in January, 1906.*

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in January, 1906, with those of January, 1905, the chief increases and decreases are as follow :—

**Increases.**

		£
I.	A. Grain and flour ... ..	67,211
II.	{ A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel ... ..	296,098
	{ I. Hides and undressed skins, and furs ... ..	120,461
	{ A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	761,959
	{ B. Copper, unwrought and wrought ... ..	128,009
	{ C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and tools, &c. ... ..	91,226
	{ D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery, and telegraph and telephone wire) ... ..	187,069
	{ E. { Steam engines ... ..	177,911
	{ E. { Machinery other than steam engines or electrical ... ..	366,373
	{ F. Ships, new ... ..	70,662
	{ Cotton yarn... ..	181,798
III.	{ H <sub>1</sub> . { " piece goods ... ..	1,068,107
	{ H <sub>1</sub> . { " lace and patent net ... ..	68,035
	{ H <sub>1</sub> . { " thread, for sewing ... ..	82,181
	{ Woollen tissues ... ..	263,749
	{ H <sub>2</sub> . { Worsted " ... ..	55,296
	{ Wool manufactures, unenumerated ... ..	61,985
	{ H <sub>3</sub> . Linen manufactures ... ..	98,608
	{ I. Apparel, including hats and bonnets ... ..	176,480
	{ J. { Manure, chemical ... ..	87,825
	{ Painters' colours and materials... ..	55,662
	{ N. { Arms, ammunition and military stores ... ..	153,612
	{ Railway trucks, &c., not of iron ... ..	169,660

**Decrease.**

		£
III.	J. Sulphate of copper ... ..	77,669

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versa*, may be noted, viz. :—

		Increase.	Decrease.
I.	{ C. { Hops ... ..	72 cwt.	£4,611
	{ C. { Spirits, British and Irish... ..	£9,685	...11,703 pf. galls.
II.	{ H. Oilseed ... ..	£2,843	... 299 tons.
	{ H <sub>2</sub> . { Wool tops ... ..	£22,730	... 71,900 lbs.
	{ H <sub>2</sub> . { Worsted yarn ... ..	£27,082	... 48,300 "
III.	{ H <sub>3</sub> . Jute yarn ... ..	£8,245	... 165,500 "
	{ Books, printed ... ..	£9,931	... 593 cwt.
	{ N. { Carriages not specially enumerated ... ..	485 number	... £5,257

**IV.—SHIPPING IN JANUARY, 1906.**

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended 31st January, 1906, amounted to 3,281,631 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,216,332 tons, as against 2,933,139 tons entered and 3,720,587 tons cleared in the month of January, 1905. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during January, 1906, amounted to 2,638,645 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,633,958 tons, as against 2,619,051 tons entered, and 2,576,769 tons cleared in January, 1905.

## TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to November, 1905, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the eleven months ended November. The corresponding figures for 1904 and 1903 are added for comparison :—

	Imports ( <i>see NOTE</i> that follows tables). Eleven Months ended November.			Exports (Domestic) ( <i>see NOTE</i> that follows tables). Eleven Months ended November.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium* ... ..	92,100,000	97,295,000	104,098,000	71,215,000	74,183,000	77,824,000
France... ..	172,054,000	161,282,000	167,890,000	153,103,000	158,031,000	171,732,000
Spain*... ..	30,559,000	30,292,000	36,071,000	30,277,000	30,783,000	31,279,000
Italy ... ..	67,297,000	68,803,000	75,263,000	55,109,000	56,469,000	60,894,000
Austria-Hungary ... ..	70,775,000	76,664,000	81,264,000	81,337,000	79,089,000	81,739,000
Egypt ... ..	15,424,000	13,613,000	19,691,000	16,927,000	18,676,000	18,140,000
United States... ..	191,193,000	193,696,000	224,627,000	267,616,000	267,140,000	292,088,000
Japan ... ..	29,318,000	33,689,000	46,017,000	26,340,000	29,103,000	23,609,000
British India ... ..	50,007,000	57,795,000	60,959,000	87,655,000	95,270,000	91,046,000
Canada ... ..	47,062,000	47,220,000	50,012,000	40,518,000	35,319,000	39,462,000
United Kingdom ... ..	426,867,000	434,642,000	441,463,000	285,278,000	272,746,000	391,371,000

\* Value of *principal* articles only.

A comparison of the total figures for the twelve months ended 31st December is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

	Imports ( <i>see NOTE</i> ). Twelve Months ended December.			Exports (Domestic) ( <i>see NOTE</i> ). Twelve Months ended December.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium* ... ..	101,689,000	106,883,000	115,410,000	79,875,000	82,960,000	87,455,000
France... ..	192,048,000	180,093,000	186,955,000	170,090,000	178,033,000	190,469,000
United States ... ..	207,395,000	215,814,000	243,700,000	303,676,000	297,023,000	333,208,000
United Kingdom ... ..	473,027,000	480,734,000	487,481,000	290,800,000	300,711,000	330,023,000

\* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Belgium, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, and *United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of “nationalised” goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

*Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (10 months)...	52,291,000	51,702,000	49,432,000	84,009,000	80,600,000	92,111,000
Germany (9 months)...	220,378,000	230,590,000	243,579,000	184,161,000	189,161,000	201,297,000
Switzerland (9 months)...	33,428,000	34,499,000	35,609,000	25,779,900	25,495,000	27,635,000
Portugal (7 months)...	7,999,000	8,378,000	8,133,000	3,836,000	4,068,000	3,662,000
Mexico† (8 months)...	10,219,000	10,714,000	11,229,000	11,115,000	12,324,000	14,940,000

\* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of both imports and exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June, 1903, 1904, and 1905, at 1s. 8d., 1s. 10d. and 2s. respectively; 2s. 1d. has been taken for the two first months (July and August) of the year 1905-6. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions, including figures received up to 31st January," to be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

## WORLD'S COCOA CROPS AND CONSUMPTION, 1901-04.

The following particulars, extracted from the German Cocoa Trade Journal "Gordian," published at Hamburg, have been received at the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul-General at that port (Sir W. Ward, C.V.O.):—

The 1904 cocoa crops in many countries, but especially in Ecuador, Trinidad, San Domingo, the Gold Coast, and Cameroons, proved to be the largest on record. In general, the crops of all countries which have only taken up the cultivation of cocoa in recent years, have increased in a far greater degree than those of the older producing countries, as is shown in the following table, which gives the crops of all countries during the four years 1901-04:—

*World's Cocoa Crops and Consumption, 1901-04.***World's Cocoa Crop.**

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	Proportion of Increase or Decrease between 1904 and 1903.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Per cent.
Ecuador ... ..	22,896	24,965	23,238	28,433	+ 22 $\frac{1}{4}$
Brazil ... ..	18,323	20,370	20,738	23,160	+ 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
St. Thomas ... ..	16,982	17,969	21,450	20,526	— 4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Trinidad ... ..	11,942	15,955	14,885	18,574	+ 25
San Domingo ... ..	6,850	8,975	7,825	13,557	+ 74
Venezuela ... ..	7,860	9,925	12,550	13,048	+ 4
Grenada ... ..	4,865	5,975	6,150	6,226	+ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Gold Coast ... ..	996	2,436	2,297	5,687	+ 148
Cuba and Porto Rico ... ..	1,750	1,875	2,625	3,266	+ 15 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ceylon ... ..	2,697	2,673	3,075	3,254	+ 6
Haiti ... ..	1,950	1,994	2,175	2,531	+ 16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jamaica ... ..	1,352	1,525	1,650	1,650	0
Martinique and Guadeloupe ... ..	825	925	1,150	1,215	+ 5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Dutch East Indies ... ..	1,276	889	1,458	1,140	— 21 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cameroons, Samoa and Togo ... ..	528	648	805	1,109	+ 40
Surinam ... ..	3,163	2,355	2,224	854	— 61 $\frac{3}{4}$
St. Lucia ... ..	765	785	800	800	0
Dominica ... ..	—	—	—	485	—
Congo Free State ... ..	—	—	—	231	—
Other countries ... ..	700	700	800	806	—
	105,720	120,939	125,895	146,552	—
Percentage of increase against the previous year ... ..	+3 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	+14 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	+4 %	+16 %	—

The most noticeable increase, viz., 148 per cent., occurred in the **Gold Coast**, where every year more and more plantations are reaching the producing stage, which requires five to six years. The district of Accra alone produced 515 tons, and Lagos and Nigeria together 53 tons, most of which was shipped to Hamburg, and consumed in Germany. The Accra cocoa in particular, during the few years it has been obtainable in any quantity, has established for itself a ready market in Germany, and there are times when the supply is not sufficient to cope with the demand.

In **San Domingo**, where the next largest increase is shown, the plantations are mostly in the hands of small farmers, with the exception of a few large estates, the most important of which belongs to the Swiss chocolate firm Suchard, and is fitted out with extensive agricultural machinery and narrow gauge railways. Whereas in the Gold Coast, the cultivation is almost entirely in the hands of the natives, in San Domingo, in spite of the smallness of many of the plantations, they are often worked on scientific lines, and as suitable land is obtainable at a very low price, the crop may be expected to increase from year to year. Hamburg is

*World's Cocoa Crops and Consumption, 1901-04.*

the principal market for San Domingo cocoas. The quantities exported from the various ports are shown in the following table:—

**Cocoa Exported from San Domingo Ports in 1904.**

Port.									Quantity.
									Tons.
San Domingo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,800
San Pedro de Macous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	577
Sanches	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,153
Samana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	782
Puerto Plata	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,245

The third largest increase occurred in the **German Colonies**, but in spite of the fact that some German colonial enthusiasts have laid stress on this point, the amount of the crop, as shown in the following table, was not really of great importance, though at the same time larger amounts are to be expected from this quarter:—

**Cocoa Shipped from German Colonies in 1904.**

Colony.									Tons.
Cameroons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,089
Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Togoland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

The Togo and Samoa cocoas are shipped exclusively to Germany, but a portion of the Cameroon crop is shipped to England. Togoland, in spite of its being situated so near the Gold Coast, is not so well adapted for the cultivation of cocoa as the latter colony, owing to the small area of its forest land, which is the most suitable land for this class of agriculture.

**Trinidad**, which comes next so far as increase is concerned, used formerly to ship the entire crop to London, but now sends large quantities direct to Hamburg, Havre, and New York, by German and other steamers.

In **Ecuador**, the largest cocoa producing country, also a very satisfactory increase occurred, namely  $22\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., the crop having been divided amongst the various districts as shown in the subjoined table. As regards the exports it will be seen from the following table that 131 tons over the amount of the crop were shipped during 1904, this small quantity having been held back from the preceding year:—

*World's Cocoa Crops and Consumption, 1901-04.***Cocoa Crop and Exports of Ecuador in 1904.**

Crop.		Exports.	
District.	Quantity.	Country.	Quantity.
	Tons.		Tons.
Guayaquil ... ..	24,590	France ... ..	13,373
Manta ... ..	86	Germany ... ..	5,289
Bahia de Caráquez ... ..	2,384	United States ... ..	4,003
Esmeraldas ... ..	108	Great Britain ... ..	2,905
Puerto Bolivar ... ..	1,265	Spain ... ..	1,921
		Holland ... ..	573
		Argentina ... ..	220
		Other countries ... ..	280
Total ... ..	28,433	Total ... ..	28,564

A very large quantity is shipped to Havre, but this may be accounted for by the fact that cocoa is often shipped to that port with the option of delivery in several other ports. In any case the figures do not imply that the cocoa was actually consumed in France itself, where in the previous year (1903) only about 3,204 tons were used from this quarter. The fact also that Switzerland, where about 2,570 tons of Ecuador cocoa was used during the year in question, is not mentioned in the above table would probably be accounted for by the amount having been passed through Havre.

The last countries showing an increase of importance were **Cuba** and **Porto Rico**.

The proportionately small increase shown in **Brazil** is to be wondered at, as the exports from Bahia alone, as will be seen from the following figures, were exceedingly high:—

**Cocoa Exported from Brazil in 1904.**

Port.										Tons.
Bahia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,969
Para ... ..	}	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,190
Manaos ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Itacoatiara ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

With regard to **Ceylon** it is to be noted that more shipments were made to Hamburg than in former years.

The **Venezuelan** crop, which only showed a very slight improvement, was shipped from the following ports:—

**Cocoa Exported from Venezuela in 1904.**

Port.										Tons.
La Guara ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,500
Carupano ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,479
Puerto Cabello ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	899

The remainder was divided between Ciudad Bolivar and Maracaibo.

*World's Cocoa Crops and Consumption, 1901-04.*

Martinique and Guadeloupe shipped, as usual, practically their entire crops to France, whereas Great Britain received all the Grenada cocoa, which is always in demand on the London market, even when other sorts are unsaleable.

A decrease occurred in the crops of St. Thomas, the Dutch East Indies, and Surinam, but in the two countries first named the falling off was not of importance. As far as Surinam is concerned, however, the decrease was enormous, and in view of the much higher crops of former years (as shown in the following table), can only be considered as most unsatisfactory, all endeavours that have been made to improve matters having failed entirely:—

**Cocoa Exported from Surinam.**

Year.										Tons.
1895...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,456
1901...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,163
1904...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	854

The following table shows the consumption of cocoa in the various countries of the world during the years 1901-04:—

**World's Cocoa Consumption.**

—				1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	Percentage of Increase or Decrease between 1904 and 1903.
				Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Per cent.
United States	...	...	...	20,665	23,120	28,508	33,159	+ 16½
Germany	...	...	...	18,410	20,601	21,491	27,101	+ 26
France	...	...	...	17,916	19,343	20,638	21,799	+ 5½
United Kingdom	...	...	...	18,908	20,386	17,485	20,552	+ 17½
Holland	...	...	...	14,373	14,666	16,741	21,124	+ 26
Switzerland	...	...	...	4,363	5,707	5,856	6,839	+ 17
Spain	...	...	...	5,931	9,259	6,006	5,611	— 6½
Belgium	...	...	...	1,865	2,277	2,767	2,792	+ ¾
Austria-Hungary	...	...	...	1,685	1,820	2,034	2,510	+ 24½
Russia	...	...	...	1,757	1,818	1,900	2,055	+ 8½
Denmark	...	...	...	762	802	1,150	996	+ 13½
Sweden	...	...	...	455	591	774	870	+ 12½
Canada	...	...	...	459	312	585	670	+ 11
Australia	...	...	...	568	554	443	550	+ 24
Italy	...	...	...	563	466	468	479	+ 2¼
Norway	...	...	...	368	410	439	472	+ 7¼
Portugal	...	...	...	100	112	136	180	—
Finland	...	...	...	25	47	61	63	+ 3¼
Including Holland's exports	...	...	...	109,173	122,491	127,482	147,802	—
Percentage of increase against the previous year	...	...	...	+ 8 %	+ 12½ %	+ 4½ %	+ 16 %	—
Without Holland's exports	...	...	...	?	116,998	121,471	138,864	—
Percentage of increase against the previous year	...	...	...	+ 8 %	+ 7 %	+ 4 %	+ 14½ %	—

*World's Cocoa Crops and Consumption, 1901-04.*

From the tables of production and consumption given it would be gathered that in 1904 the consumption was greater than the production, but this in reality was not the case. The error appearing in the totals in these tables is caused by the figures for Holland, where, for statistical purposes, the total amount of cocoa imported is also given as having been consumed, whereas in reality a large portion was re-exported, as is shown in the following table:—

**Cocoa Imported and Exported from Holland.**

—					1902.	1903.	1904.
					Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Imported	...	...	...	...	14,666	16,741	21,124
Exported	...	...	...	...	5,493	6,011	8,939
Amount actually consumed ...					9,173	10,730	12,185

On referring to the table of consumption, it will be seen that the most important increase occurred in Germany, viz., 26 per cent.; while among the other most important users, the United Kingdom increased  $17\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and the United States  $16\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. Amongst the smaller consumers Austria-Hungary increased  $24\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and Switzerland 17 per cent. Taking into account the incorrect figures given for the consumption in Holland, it will be seen that whereas the crop in 1904 increased 16 per cent., the consumption only increased  $14\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. against the 1903 totals.

It is to be noticed that the planting of high-grade cocoas is not being carried on to the same extent as the cheaper varieties, which may be accounted for by the fact that cocoa is now no longer merely a luxury, but is becoming a staple article of food even amongst the working classes, this end having, in a great measure, been brought about by improved methods introduced in the process of manufacture, which has enabled the lower grades of cocoa to be handled to advantage.

In 1904 Hamburg became the leading centre of the cocoa trade, having far surpassed Havre and New York. London, however, is losing ground year by year in favour of both Hamburg and New York, as will be seen from the following tables:—

**Cocoa Received at Various Ports.**

Port.					1902.	1903.	1904.
					Sacks.	Sacks.	Sacks.
London	...	...	...	...	227,025	183,362	210,395
Havre	...	...	...	...	515,291	504,167	446,751
Hamburg	...	...	...	...	371,100	409,435	645,136
New York	...	...	...	...	296,425	351,455	413,298

*World's Cocoa Crops and Consumption, 1901-04.***Cocoa Disposed of for either Home Consumption or Export.**

Port.					1902.	1903.	1904.
					Sacks.	Sacks.	Sacks.
London	...	...	...	...	239,887	197,247	178,547
Havre	...	...	...	...	471,507	497,239	430,699
Hamburg	...	...	...	...	369,235	406,354	589,051
New York	...	...	...	...	304,861	350,086	408,824

**Cocoa on Hand at the end of each Year.**

Port.					1902.	1903.	1904.
					Sacks.	Sacks.	Sacks.
London	...	...	...	...	64,197	50,340	83,092
Havre	...	...	...	...	114,345	121,252	137,304
Hamburg	...	...	...	...	17,772	20,853	77,038
New York	...	...	...	...	11,446	12,815	17,289

The proportion disposed of compared with the amount received differed considerably in the various ports, and was as follows:—

**Percentage of Sacks Offered which remained Unsold at the End of the Year.**

Port.					1902.	1903.	1904.	Average of the Three Years.
					Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
London	...	...	...	...	21	20	32	24½
Havre	...	...	...	...	19½	19½	24	21½
Hamburg	...	...	...	...	4½	5	11	7
New York	...	...	...	...	3½	3½	4	4

From the above it will be seen that cocoa remains longest unsold in London, and this is probably one of the reasons why Trinidad and Ceylon firms are shipping less to that port than formerly. The reason why such a large amount always remains on hand in Havre is that the consumers instead of taking the cocoa direct from the ship to their factories, prefer to keep it several months in bond, as in this way they are protected against sudden price fluctuations, and the cocoa besides becoming milder, also dries up to a certain extent, which of course causes a saving in the

*World's Cocoa Crops and Consumption, 1901-04.*

amount of duty to be paid. In Germany this plan is also adopted by some firms, but it is not nearly so general as in France.

Every year manufacturers are getting more into direct communication with the producers abroad, and now a considerable portion of the cocoa, which passes through Hamburg, Havre, and New York, goes straight to the manufacturer without passing through the hands of any middleman. This condition of things is much less prevalent in London, where cocoa is largely sold at public auctions, a method which is rarely adopted at other centres with the exception of Amsterdam, where about eight auctions of Java cocoa are held annually.

The following table shows the quantity of cocoa remaining in stock in the various countries at the end of each year :—

**Stocks of Cocoa on Hand at the end of each Year.**

—				1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
				Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
France	...	...	...	11,353	9,432	13,637	15,935	19,259
England	...	...	...	7,779	5,940	4,822	3,440	6,060
Germany	...	...	...	1,651	1,075	1,362	1,538	5,519
United States	...	...	...	1,205	1,778	1,234	1,375	1,819
Other countries	...	...	...	300	275	300	400	600
Stocks {	In ports of discharge	...	...	22,288	18,500	21,355	22,688	33,257
	Afloat	...	...	8,506	8,818	10,328	10,566	12,200
Total Stocks				30,794	27,318	31,683	33,254	45,457

From the foregoing table it will be seen that the stocks at the end of 1904 in the various ports of discharge amounted to 33,257 tons, namely, 10,000 tons more than the stocks in hand at the same ports at the end of 1900. In spite of the stock in question appearing somewhat large it is in reality considered to be satisfactory, as it is sufficient to insure the manufacturers against any sudden dearth, without being large enough to cause producers to be afraid that their crops in future will be unsaleable.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The Board of Trade have received from the India Office a despatch stating that, by an amendment of the Indian **Increased Import Duties on Spirits.** Tariff Act passed on 26th January last, the duties on spirits imported into India by sea will be advanced from 26th February, 1906.

The despatch states that it is understood that the new rates will be as follow :—

- On liqueurs and perfumed spirits, Rs. 10 and Rs. 11, respectively, per bulk gallon irrespective of strength ;
- On other spirits, Rs. 7 per proof gallon.

*Note.*—The present rates are :—

			Rs.
Liqueurs	...	per Imp. gall.	6
Perfumed spirits	...	" "	8
Other spirits...	...	per proof "	6

With reference to the Notices which appeared in the "Board of **Revised Tariff Valuations.** Trade Journal" for 26th January, 1905, and succeeding weeks, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a Customs Circular (No. 1 of 1906) revising, with effect from 1st January, 1906, the "Tariff Valuations" fixed for various classes of goods imported into India.

The following is the full text of the Circular :—

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 22 and 23 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 (VIII. of 1878), in modification of the Tariff values fixed by the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII. of 1894), as amended by the Indian Tariff Act (1894) Amendment Act, 1896 (III. of 1896), and as further altered from time to time by notifications of the Governor-General in Council, the Governor-General in Council is pleased to fix, with effect from the 1st of January, 1906, for the articles specified in column 2 of the schedule hereto annexed, the Tariff values stated in column 4 of the said schedule.

"Provided that nothing in this Notification shall affect any additional duty imposed under the powers conferred by Sections 8 A and 8 B of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII. of 1894), as amended by the Indian Tariff Act Amendment Act, 1899 (XIV. of 1899), the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1902 (VIII. of 1902), the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1903 (XII. of 1903), and the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1904 (XI. of 1904)."

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\* The Acts Nos. xiv. of 1899, viii. of 1902, xii. of 1903, and xi. of 1904 relate to the imposition of *additional* and *special* duties on bounty-fed sugar imported into British India.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.****Schedule IV.—Import Tariff.****GENERAL DUTIES.**

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff-Valuation.	Duty.
	ANIMALS, LIVING.		R. a.	
1	Horses, cattle, sheep, and all other living animals of all kinds.	...	...	Free.
	ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.			
2	Coffee ... ..	cwt.	35 0	5 %
3	Fruits and vegetables (except fresh fruits and vegetables not separately enumerated, which are free)—			
	Almonds without shell ... ..	"	48 0	"
	" in the shell ... ..	"	13 0	"
	" (kagazi) ... ..	"	35 0	"
	Cashew or cajoo kernels ... ..	"	16 0	"
	Cocoanuts, Straits ... ..	thousand	60 0	"
	" other ... ..	"	32 0	"
	" kernel (khopra) ... ..	cwt.	13 8	"
	Currants, in cases ... ..	"	14 0	"
	" in cans ... ..	"	26 0	"
	" other ... ..	"	14 0	"
	Dates, dry, in bags ... ..	"	6 8	"
	" wet " baskets and bundles ...	"	4 4	"
	" " in pots, boxes, tins, and crates	"	8 0	"
	Figs, Persian, dried ... ..	"	8 0	"
	Garlic ... ..	"	5 0	"
	Hops ... ..	...	...	Free.
	Pistachio nuts ... ..	cwt.	25 0	5 %
	Prunes, Bussora (álu Bokhara) ... ..	"	23 0	"
	Raisins, black ... ..	"	8 0	"
	" kishmish, Persian Gulf ... ..	"	13 0	"
	" Munakka " " ... ..	"	8 0	"
	" other sorts ... ..	...	ad val.	"
	Walnuts, Persian ... ..	cwt.	8 0	"
	All other sorts of fruits and vegetables ...	...	ad val.	"
4	Grain and pulse, including broken grain and pulse, but not including flour.	...	...	Free.
5	Mineral and aerated waters, and all unfermented and non-alcoholic beverages.	...	ad val.	5 %
6	Provisions, oilmen's stores and groceries—			
	Bacon ... ..	...	"	"
	Beef and pork ... ..	...	"	"
	Bêche de mer... ..	...	"	"
	Butter... ..	lb.	1 4	"
	Cheese ... ..	...	ad val.	"
	China preserves in syrup ... ..	box of six jars.	4 8	"
	" " dry candied ... ..	lb.	0 4½	"
	Cocum ... ..	cwt.	3 8	"
	Fish-maws ... ..	...	...	Free.
	Flour ... ..	...	ad val.	5 %
	Ghi ... ..	cwt.	48 0	"
	Margarine ... ..	lb.	1 4	"
	Pork hams ... ..	...	ad val.	"
	Sago ... ..	cwt.	7 0	"

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*  
**SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF**—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK— <i>contd.</i>		R. a.	
	Provisions, oilmen's stores, &c.— <i>contd.</i>			
	Shark-fins ... ..	...	...	Free.
	Singally and sozille ... ..	...	...	5 %
	Tapioca ... ..	cwt.	8 0	2½ %
	Vinegar, in casks ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	...
	" not in casks—			
	Persian ... ..	Imp. gal.	1 8	5 %
	Indian ... ..	"	0 6	"
	All other sorts of provisions, oilmen's stores and groceries	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
7	Spices—			
	Betelnuts, raw or coloured, whole or split, from Goa...	cwt.	13 8	"
	"       "       "       Ceylon	"	10 0	"
	"       "       "       Straits	"	7 4	"
	"       —all other sorts including boiled	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Chillies, dry ... ..	cwt.	13 0	"
	Cloves... ..	"	35 0	"
	" stems and heads ... ..	"	6 12	"
	" in seeds, narlavang ... ..	"	11 0	"
	Ginger, dry ... ..	"	12 0	"
	Mace ... ..	lb.	1 0	"
	Nutmegs ... ..	"	0 5	"
	" in shell ... ..	"	0 4	"
	Pepper, black ... ..	cwt.	35 0	"
	" white ... ..	"	55 0	"
	All other sorts of spices ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
8	Sugar—			
	China, candy... ..	cwt.	16 4	" *
	Loaf (excluding cube and chopped) ... ..	"	12 0	" *
	Crystallised, beet ... ..	"	9 0	" *
	" and soft (other than beet) refined in the United Kingdom.	"	9 0	" *
	"       "       "       refined in China ... ..	"	9 8	" *
	"       "       "       from Egypt ... ..	"	9 2	" *
	"       "       "       white from Java above 20 Dutch standard	"	9 0	" *
	"       "       "       from Mauritius ... ..	"	8 10	" *
	Molasses ... ..	"	2 12	" *
	Sugar, all other sorts, including saccharine produce of all kinds and confectionery	...	<i>ad val.</i>	" *
9	Tea—			
	Black ... ..	lb.	0 8	"
	Green ... ..	"	0 10	"
	CHEMICALS, DRUGS, MEDICINES, AND NARCOTICS, AND DYEING AND TANNING MATERIALS.			
10	Chemical products and preparations—			
	Acid, sulphuric ... ..	lb.	0 1½	"
	Alkali, Indian (sajji-khar) ... ..	cwt.	2 0	"
	Alum ... ..	"	4 8	"

\* Exclusive of the *additional* and *special* duties imposed upon bounty-fed sugar.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.****SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—continued.**

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	<b>CHEMICALS, DRUGS, &amp;c.—contd.</b>		R. a.	
	<b>Chemical products and preparations—contd.</b>			
	Arsenic (other than European) ... ..	cwt.	23 0	5 %
	" (China mansil) ... ..	"	19 0	"
	" other sorts ... ..	"	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Bicarbonate of soda ... ..	cwt.	6 0	"
	Copperas, green ... ..	"	<i>ad val.</i>	2½ %
	Explosives, namely, blasting gelatine, dynamite, roburite, tonite, and all other descriptions, including detonators and blasting fuse.	"	"	5 %
	Sal ammoniac ... ..	cwt.	30 0	"
	Sulphate of copper ... ..	"	17 8	"
	Sulphur (brimstone), flour ... ..	"	5 8	"
	" ( " ), roll ... ..	"	5 4	"
	" ( " ), rough ... ..	"	5 0	"
	All other sorts of chemical products and preparations, including saltpetre, borax, grape sugar and glucose, but excluding nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, sulphate of ammonia, sulphate of potash and kainit salts, which are free.	"	<i>ad val.</i>	"
11	<b>Drugs, medicines, and narcotics—</b>			
	Aloes, black ... ..	cwt.	18 0	"
	" Socotra ... ..	"	15 8	"
	Aloe-wood ... ..	lb.	6 0	"
	Asafoetida (hing) ... ..	cwt.	75 0	"
	" coarse (hingra) ... ..	"	16 0	"
	Atáry, Persian ... ..	"	15 0	"
	Bánslochan (bamboo camphor) ... ..	lb.	0 4	"
	Brimstone (amalsára) ... ..	cwt.	16 0	"
	Calumba root ... ..	"	9 0	"
	Camphor, refined, cake ... ..	lb.	2 0	"
	" partially refined, cake, in blocks of about 13 lbs.	"	1 10	"
	Camphor, crude, in powder ... ..	"	1 8	"
	Cassia lignea ... ..	cwt.	28 0	"
	China root (chobehini), rough ... ..	"	9 0	"
	" ( " ), scraped ... ..	"	18 0	"
	Cocaine ... ..	"	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Cubebs ... ..	cwt.	19 0	"
	Galangal, China ... ..	"	4 8	"
	Pellitory (akalkara) ... ..	"	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Peppermint crystals ... ..	"	"	"
	Quinine and other alkaloids of chinchona ... ..	"	"	Free.
	Salep ... ..	cwt.	85 0	5 %
	Senna leaves ... ..	"	5 0	"
	Storax, liquid (rose melloes or salaras) ... ..	"	31 0	"
	Tobacco, unmanufactured ... ..	"	"	Free.
	" manufactured ... ..	"	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
	All other sorts of drugs, medicines, and narcotics, except opium†	"	"	"

† The duty on opium, under Schedule III., is fixed at Rs. 24 per ser of 80 tolas.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.****SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—continued.**

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
12	CHEMICALS, DRUGS, &c.— <i>contd.</i>		R. a.	
	Dyeing and tanning materials—			
	Alizarine dye, dry, 40 per cent. ...	lb.	1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 %
	" " " 50 " ...	"	1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
	" " " 60 " ...	"	1 12	"
	" " " 70 " ...	"	2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
	" " " 80 " ...	"	2 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
	" " " 100 " ...	"	2 12	"
	" " moist, 10 " ...	"	0 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	"
	" " " 16 " ...	"	0 7	"
	" " " 20 " ...	"	0 8	"
	Aniline " " (indigo blue) ...	"	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
	" " dry " ...	"	0 14	"
	" " salts... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Avar bark ... ..	cwt.	4 0	"
	Buzgand (gulpista) ... ..	"	40 0	"
	Cochineal ... ..	lb.	1 8	"
	Gallnuts (myrabolams) ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	" Persian ... ..	cwt.	40 0	"
	Madder or manjit ... ..	"	8 8	"
	Orchilla weed ... ..	"	3 8	"
	Sappan wood and root ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Turmeric ... ..	...	"	"
	All other sorts of dyeing and tanning materials.	...	"	"

*(To be continued.)***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 9th December, 1905, has been received, which contains a Supplement, No. 54, to the Customs Tariff Guide, dated 8th December, 1905, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Australian Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Baths (electric hot air, electric light and hot air, and four cell, Dr. Schull's)—	
As machinery and appliances, n.e.i., electrical ... ..	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % <i>ad val.</i>
Bolts, eye, with nut—	
As metals, bolt and nut ... ..	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % "
*Boots, gum, of any length of leg—	
As gum boots ... ..	Free.

\* Revised decision.

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

#### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—continued.

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Capers, dried salt (in bulk)—	
As vegetables, dried or concentrated   ...   ...   ...	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
Grubber, dairy—	
As tools of trade   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	Free.
Milk powder and crumbs—	
As milk, concentrated   ...   ...   ...   ...	1d. per lb.
Musical instruments—definition—	
Orchestral flageolettes—	
A flageolet is a wood wind instrument like a flute or piccolo, with keys, but played by an extended mouth-piece. This does not include flageolet whistles without keys.	
Transformers—	
Sinusoidal, a combination consisting of a motor-generator, a static transformer, and an electro-medical appliance—	
Motor generator and electrodes—	
As machinery and appliances, n.e.i., electrical   ...	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>
Static transformer—	
As electrical materials   ...   ...   ...   ...	Free.

#### NETHERLANDS.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Dutch Royal Decree, which was published in the "Nederlandsche Staats Courant" for the 10th January, exempting from duty, subject to certain conditions, vinegar and pyroligneous acid for use in dyeing and washing yarns and woven or knitted stuffs.

#### FRANCE.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 31st January contains the text of a Presidential Decree fixing at 60,000 kilogs. the quantity of coffee, the produce of the Ivory Coast, which may be admitted into France at a reduced rate of duty during the year 1906.

Another Presidential Decree contained in the same issue of the "Journal Officiel" fixes the quantities of coffee and bananas, the produce of French Guinea, which may be admitted into France at reduced rates of duty during the year ending the 30th June, 1906, as follows:—

Coffee ...   ...   ...	25,000 kilogs.
Bananas   ...   ...   ...	2,500,000   ,,

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### SWITZERLAND.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" for the 3rd January contains the text of a Federal Law providing for the control of the trade in (1) food products and (2) household articles (*articles de ménage et objets usuels*).  
**Regulations respecting Food Products, &c.**

The control of imported merchandise of the above kinds (not including those passing through Switzerland in transit) is to be exercised at the Swiss frontiers by the Customs and veterinary officials; the former being charged with the duty of taking samples of suspected goods for official analysis, and the latter with the examination of meat and of pork-butchers' products. Fish, game, poultry, and other articles subject to rapid decomposition, may be exempted by Ordinance from the general provisions. It is further provided that the taking of samples must be carried out in such a manner as to cause no damage to the goods or delay in the transport of the same; that the Confederation shall be answerable for all injury or considerable delay resulting from the taking of samples; and that the owner or consignee of merchandise shall have the right to require packages from which samples have been taken to be sealed or "plumbed" by the Customs: such sealing or plumbing to be carried out at the expense of the person making the demand. Goods which are evidently putrefied may be rejected at the frontier.

The Law imposes various penalties for the falsifying or counterfeiting of food products or household articles, as well as for their adulteration with substances dangerous to life or health.

The Federal Council is to fix the date of the coming into force of this law, the full text of which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### SWITZERLAND—{ FRANCE. SPAIN.

The Swiss "Recueil des Lois Fédérales" for the 10th January contains a Federal Decree authorising the Federal Council to apply the new Swiss Conventional tariff to French products during the period from 1st January to 1st April, 1906.\*  
**Commercial Relations between the above Countries.**

Another Decree appearing in the same issue of the "Recueil" authorises the Federal Council to enter into an agreement with the Spanish Government for the prolongation of the existing provisional Commercial Arrangement between the two countries,† or to conclude a new Arrangement. This authority expires, however, on the 1st July next at latest.

\* See the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 11th January, p. 72.

† See the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 14th September, 1905, p. 500.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st February contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the second fortnight of January was 23·24 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payment of Customs duties which are made in gold, during the first fortnight of the present month, is to be 19 per cent.

**Rate of Exchange  
for Adjustment of  
Customs Duties  
payable in Gold.**

### ITALY.

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" for the 18th October contains the text of a Royal Decree relating to the drawback of the import duty or manufacturing tax paid on the raw material, on the exportation of various products from Italy.

**Drawbacks on  
Cocoa, Chocolate,  
and other  
Sugared Goods.**

*Cocoa.*—Drawback of the duties paid on the raw materials used in the manufacture of pure cocoa, in paste or powder, containing cocoa butter or not, with or without addition of aromatic substances, but without addition of any other foreign substance, is allowed at the rate of 37·50 lire per 100 kilogs. This provision is made effective as from 1st July, 1905. The minimum quantity admitted to drawback is 25 kilogrammes.

*Syrups for beverages* are added to the list of products in respect of which drawback of the manufacturing tax on the sugar used in their manufacture is allowed. Such drawback is calculated at a rate corresponding to the manufacturing tax on sugar of the 1st class (*i.e.*, yielding more than 94 per cent. of refined sugar), and on the quantity of sugar actually contained in the product. The minimum quantity admitted to drawback is 25 kilogrammes.

*Bonbons, caramels, pastilles, and sugared goods* containing not less than 60 per cent. of saccharose.—Drawback of the manufacturing tax on the sugar used is allowed at the fixed rate of 42·10 lire per 100 kilogs.; but the exporter may demand that the drawback be calculated at a rate corresponding to the manufacturing tax on sugar of the 1st class, on the quantity of saccharose actually contained in the products exported. The same articles containing less than 60 per cent. of saccharose, are now also entitled to reimbursement of the manufacturing tax, calculated at the rate leviable on sugar of the 1st class, and on the quantity of saccharose actually contained.

*Chocolate.*—From the 1st January, 1906, drawback of the duty paid on the raw materials used in the manufacture of chocolate (with or without cinnamon flavouring), was to be allowed at the fixed rate of 60 lire per 100 kilogs. In the case of chocolate mixed with feculæ, such drawback is allowed only when the sum

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

of the duties on the sugar and cocoa used is not less than 60 lire; otherwise drawback is allowed on the quantity of those materials actually ascertained by analysis to be present. For chocolate manufactured with foreign sugar admitted under "temporary admission" conditions, in accordance with the Decree of the 24th December, 1903,\* the rate of drawback in respect of the cocoa used is fixed at 13·20 lire per 100 kilogs. of the exported product, except in the case of chocolate mixed with feculæ, for which the rate is 13·20 lire for 35 kilogs. of cocoa actually contained in the product.

#### **ROUMANIA.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at pp. 19—23 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 4th January respecting the new Treaty of Commerce between the United Kingdom and Roumania, the Board of Trade are now informed that an agreement has been arrived at between the two Governments to incorporate in the Treaty a further reduction of the Roumanian duty on cotton yarns.

In accordance with this arrangement the duty on single unbleached yarns (No. 333 of the new tariff) will not exceed 5 francs per 100 kilogrammes so long as the Treaty remains in force.

#### **CUBA.**

The Cuban "Gaceta Oficial" for the 12th January contains a Decree promulgating new Sanitary Regulations which were to come into force on the 1st February. Chapter V., dealing with foods and beverages, contains prohibitions against adulteration and the use of injurious colouring substances, &c. Regulations are laid down as to the composition of tin foil in which fruits, sweets, and other comestibles may be packed, and of the utensils in which alimentary products may be prepared. Wines and other alcoholic beverages, flour, butter, edible oils, and milk, fresh and condensed, are dealt with in detail. Chapter XVIII. regulates the sale of meat, and (among other matters) prohibits the use of any substance, except common salt for the preservation of meat intended for consumption. Chapter XXIV. prohibits the introduction of any animal suffering from a disease capable of being transmitted to human beings, or which may have been in contact with animals suffering from such disease.

The text of these Regulations (in Spanish) may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

\* See "Board of Trade Journal" for 4th February, 1904.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRAZIL.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at p.p. 122-3 of the "Journal" for 18th January relative to the increase in the proportion of the Brazilian import duties payable in gold, the Board of Trade are now in receipt of a copy of the "Diario Official" containing the complete text of the Brazilian Budget Law for 1906, by which the said increase was enacted.

On the articles specified in the following list, 50 per cent. of the duties are payable in gold when the rate of exchange is maintained at over 15*d.* to the milreis for a period of 30 days. This provision will only cease to be operative if a rate lower than 15*d.* is maintained for a like period, in which case 35 per cent. of the duties will be payable in gold.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff No.	Articles.
1	Animals.	172	Sienna earth, calcined or in powder.
9	Hats of the fur of the hare, otter, beaver, or of horsehair.	<i>Ex</i> 178	Acids (impure hydrochloric, nitric and sulphuric).
23	Hides and skins, raw, of all kinds.	179	Mineral waters, except natural medicinal waters.
24	Hides and skins prepared and tanned, except ermine, beaver, otter and the like, morocco chamois and kid leather.	196	Balsams, prepared, of all kinds.
30	Boots and shoes.	204	Medicinal pills, lozenges, &c.
41	Trunks of any shape.	<i>Ex</i> 213	Chloride of sodium.
52	Lard, rendered or prepared.	227	Medicinal elixirs, liqueurs, and solutions of all kinds.
53	Meat, except hams, sausages, and Bologna sausages.	228	Emulsions of all kinds.
60	Butter and margarine.	259	Lysol, creoline, creosol, and the like.
63	Cheese of all kinds.	279	Pastilles and pastes, medicinal.
69	Bacon, salted or in brine.	280	Pastilles, compressed or dissolved, tabloids of all kinds.
91	Fruits and nuts, preserved.	326	Medicinal syrups of all kinds.
93	Rice, husked or not.	330	Wood, rough, sawn, wrought, in veneers or other forms.
98	Beans of all kinds.	410	Straw, esparto, coir and other vegetable fibres, raw or prepared, except Italian, Chilian, and other similar straws for hats and similar plaited wares.
99	Maccaroni, &c., and biscuits.	437	Cotton yarns.
100	Maize.	465	Cotton stockings and socks.
102	Vegetables and farinaceous products not specially mentioned, fresh, dried, in brine, or preserved.	468	Lace of cotton or of cotton mixed with wool or linen.
104	Garlic.	469	Cotton drawers, shirts, collars, and cuffs.
106	Potatoes.	470	Cotton bags.
109	Onions.	472	Cotton tissues, plain and twilled,
115	Tobacco, manufactured or not.	473	" " figured, damasked, &c.
123	Vegetable oils, except olive or sweet oil.		
124	Fermented beverages.*		
137	Syrups, not medicinal, of all kinds.		
159	Ochres.		

\* The rates fixed by the Tariff for fermented beverages are re-established. They were increased by the Budget for 1904. (*See* "Journal" for 25th February, 1904.)

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRAZIL**—continued.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Tariff No.	Articles.
474	Cotton tissues not elsewhere mentioned in the Tariff, except velvets, velveteens, bombazines and corduroys.		unsized, and oiled, carbonized, Oriental, rice, Chinese, vegetable and similar paper; paper coated with imitation gold or silver, for flowers; pulp of any kind for the manufacture of paper).
<i>Ex</i> 488	Woollen muslins, <i>lilas, durantes, princetas</i> , seraphines, knitted tissues.		Cardboard.
517	Woollen cloths, cassimeres and cassinettes, mixed or not with silk, chevots, American flannels, serges and diagonals.	613	Earthenware.
		620	Cement.
		625	Talc.
534	Bagging, sackcloth, &c., of tow.	641	Earths.
<i>Ex</i> 538	Canvas and duck of linen, hemp, jute, &c.	642	Cast-iron, in ingots, pigs, or puddled, crude.
547	Linen, hemp, jute : cordage.	703	Iron and steel ; horseshoe nails.
562	" " drawers, shirts, collars and cuffs.	732	" screws.
563	Linen, hemp, jute : bags.	749	" nails, tacks, pegs, rivets, &c.
612	Paper (except the following writing and drawing paper of all kinds, white or coloured ; printing paper ; tissue paper, white or coloured copying paper,	751	" manufactures not specially mentioned.
		757	Wagons, carriages, &c., for railways, and accessories.
		805	Matches.
		1060	

In the case of articles not mentioned in the foregoing statement, only 35 per cent. of the duty is leviable in gold.

**ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at pp. 222-3 of last week's "Journal," relative to the New Argentine Customs Law, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of the New Tariff of Valuations for the assessment of import duties under that Law, which came into force on the 1st January. The volume may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The concluding portion of the translation of the new Customs Law is unavoidably held over until next week.

**COLOMBIA.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that by a Colombian Decree (No. 1381) of the 25th November last the duties on goods imported through the Customs houses of Tumaco and Cúcuta have again been modified as follows:—

Goods imported through the Customs house of Tumaco and

**Import Duties  
at Tumaco and  
Cúcuta.**

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

destined for consumption in the Department of Nariño, as far inland as the city of Pasto, will pay import duties in accordance with Law 63 of 1903 (\*). Merchandise despatched beyond that point will pay the difference between the Tariff established by Law 63 of 1903 and the Tariff of the 27th January, 1905 (†).

Goods imported through the port of Cúcuta will pay duties in accordance with the Tariff of 27th January, 1905, with a surcharge of only 25 per cent. instead of 70 per cent., the general rate provided by the Tariff Law. This provision shall hold good until a special Tariff has been drawn up for the port of Cúcuta.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### CAPE COLONY.

In the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of the 5th January it is notified that, on and after the 1st January, the rates previously charged for the conveyance between Cape Government Railway Stations of irrigation machinery and plant, viz., 2nd for imported and 3rd class for South African, will only be applied when the consignment is accompanied by a declaration from the consignee or ultimate consignee, as the case may be, that the machinery or plant is actually to be used for irrigation purposes.

Unless accompanied by such a declaration, the higher rate will be charged in the first instance, viz., 2nd class for imported and 2b class for South African, but a rebate will subsequently be granted of the difference between the higher and the lower rates for the imported or South African article, as the case may be, on production of a certificate from the ultimate consignee that the machinery or plant has been or is being used for irrigation purposes.

Application for rebate is to be made to the local Traffic Manager.

### RUSSIA.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke), translating from the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg) of 22nd December/4th January, gives the following figures of Russian railway mileage, brought down to November last, stated to be based on official data in the possession of the Ministry of Ways and Means, viz.: the total length of all the railway lines of the Russian Empire, not including the Chinese Eastern (Manchurian) Railway, amounts

\* See the "Board of Trade Journal" for 28th January, 1904, and following issues.

† See the "Board of Trade Journal" for 20th April, 1905, and following issues.

### Shipping and Transport.

to 59,511 versts (39,674 miles) of main lines, and 1,157 versts (771 miles) of branch lines. The above include 47,352 versts of lines in European Russia, 9,123 versts in Asiatic Russia, and 3,036 in Finland. To the Crown belong 28,654 versts in European Russia, 9,123 in Asiatic Russia, and 2,782 in Finland. The remaining lines belong to private companies, with the exception of two lines of inconsiderable length (32 and 15 versts respectively) belonging to private individuals.

### OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

With reference to the article on pp. 15-16 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 4th January, the "Levant

**Hedjaz Railway.** Herald" states that great progress has been made in the construction of the Hedjaz Railway, which is now open to traffic as far as Minlavéré, a point about 150 kiloms. beyond Ma'an. The Dera-Haifa branch is reported to be in full working order; and this, together with the main line, makes 733 kiloms. over which trains now run. The earth-works have been pushed some distance beyond Mudavéré, and the survey has been completed as far as Medain Salih, 950 kiloms. from Damascus, considerably over half-way to Mecca.

The "Herald" adds that the Imperial Government intend to establish big engineering works, probably at Damascus, in connection with the railway, and have already ordered the necessary plant.

## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### CANADA-BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The following comparative table showing the quantities of minerals produced in British Columbia in 1904, together with an *estimate* of the output for 1905, is taken from the "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York):—

						1904.	1905.
Gold, placer	...	...	...	...	Ozs.	55,765	55,500
Gold, lode	...	...	...	...	"	222,042	224,490
Total gold...						277,807	279,990
Silver	...	...	...	...	"	3,222,481	3,587,719
Copper	...	...	...	...	Lbs.	35,710,128	36,200,000
Lead	...	...	...	...	"	36,646,244	57,200,000
Zinc ore...	...	...	...	Tons of	2,000 lbs.	—	13,330
Coal	...	...	...	"	2,240 lbs.	1,253,628	1,030,000
Coke	...	...	...	"	"	334,102	242,000

## *Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

### NATAL.

The Correspondent at Durban to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew), has forwarded the following statement of the production and distribution of coal in Natal during the year 1905, to which corresponding figures for the preceding year have been added for purposes of comparison:—

—	1904.	1905.
	Tons.	Tons.
Bunkered at Durban ... ..	388,141	563,860
Exported by sea ... ..	12,431	42,598
Used by railways or otherwise consumed in Natal, exported overland, or stored ... ..	457,726	522,949
Total production ... ..	858,298	1,129,407

## YARNS AND TEXTILES.

### INDIA.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each province in British India, and in the Native States, during October of each of the years 1903, 1904, and 1905, and in the seven months, April to October, 1903, 1904, and 1905.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the seven months ended October, 1903, 1904, and 1905:—

—		Seven Months ended October.		
		1903.	1904.	1905.
<b>BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.</b>				
Cotton yarn spun ... ..	Lbs.	356,320,907	323,309,778	403,089,390
Cotton woven goods produced:—				
Grey goods ... ..	{ = Yards	65,759,622	74,395,103	80,072,691
Figured and coloured goods ... ..	Lbs.	269,261,716	314,160,093	335,633,651
Hosiery ... ..	"	14,247,158	14,936,646	17,771,994
Miscellaneous goods ... ..	"	452,770	455,249	401,894
		916,397	1,333,006	849,609

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 3rd February, 1906, were as follows:—

#### Corn Prices.

Wheat	...	...	...	28s. 10d.
Barley	...	...	...	25s. 1d.
Oats	...	...	...	18s. 10d.

For further particulars see p. 289.

A statement is published on p. 290, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 3rd February, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

#### Imports of Agricultural Produce.

### OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

The "Levant Herald" of 13th January remarks that at present no use is made of the large quantity of reeds which grow on the banks of lakes and rivers in many parts of the Ottoman Empire. It is stated that an Austrian company has been formed, with a capital of 1,000,000 florins, to utilise the reeds found on the banks of the Danube for making bags, &c. The "Herald" is of opinion that this, or a similar company, would find a profitable field in exploiting Turkish reeds.

There are also, remarks the "Herald," large quantities of bamboos growing in Bagdad, Bassorah, and other Turkish provinces: no systematic attempt has hitherto been made to utilise these.

#### Unexploited Growths of Reeds and Bamboos.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 1st February, 1906 was 133,844, and the number imported during the five weeks ended the 1st February was 664,308 (including 159 bales British West Indian and 80 bales

#### Cotton Statistics.

*Miscellaneous.***UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 1st February, 1906, 8,312 bales, and for the five weeks, 45,480.

For further details see p. 289.

The forty-sixth annual meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom will be held at the "Whitehall Rooms," Hotel Metropole, Whitehall Place, S.W., on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 6th, 7th and 8th March, 1906. The chair will be taken each day at 10 o'clock precisely by Sir William H. Holland,

M.P. (President). Resolutions dealing with, *inter alia*, the following subjects, will be moved, viz. :—

Commercial Treaties, Foreign Tariffs, Consular Service, Canadian Cattle Trade, Colonial Duty on Catalogues, Canal Development, General Railway Classification, Carriers' Act, Royal Commission on Railways, Inquests on Fires, County Courts Jurisdiction, Shipping Freights, Alcohol for Manufactures, Stamping of Documents, Penny Postal Service, Postage to the Colonies, Newspaper Postage, Minister of Commerce, Patent Law Amendment, Indian Trade Mark Registration, French Congo, Prevention of Corruption, Municipal Trading, Rating of Machinery, Marine Insurance Bill, Board of Trade Shipping Regulations, Light Dues on Shipping, Underground Telegraphic Communication.

**BRITISH INDIA.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received, through the India Office, copies of a publication entitled "Variations in Indian Price Levels since 1861, expressed in Index numbers" by Mr. J. A. Robertson, of the Department of Commerce and Industry in India, formerly Director-General of Statistics. This publication may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**SOUTH AFRICA.**

A copy of the "Official Gazette" of the High Commissioner for South Africa, dated 22nd December, 1905, has been received, containing a Proclamation (No. 20 of 1905) providing for the imposition of an excise duty upon spirits distilled or manufactured within Barotziland, and for the regulation of distilleries in that territory.

*Miscellaneous.***SOUTH AFRICA—continued.**

By section 6 of this Proclamation, which is to come into force on the date of publication in the "Gazette" as above stated, it is provided that an excise duty of 6s. per imperial gallon\* shall be imposed upon all spirits distilled or manufactured in the territory, which shall be sold, consumed, or otherwise disposed of by any distiller.

A similar duty will also be imposed upon spirits manufactured or produced in any Colony or Territory in the South African Customs Union when imported into the Territory of Barotziland (North-Western Rhodesia).

\* With a proportionate increase in the case of spirits of greater strength than proof.

The report on Basutoland, recently issued by the Colonial Office, gives the following figures showing the value of the imports and exports during the year ended 30th June, 1905, as compared with the preceding year :—

Year ended 30th June.							Imports.	Exports.
							£	£
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	298,140	127,057
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	149,821	164,817

The principal items of import were woollen manufactures (33,451*l.* as against 80,580*l.*), cotton manufactures (24,289*l.* as against 50,030*l.*), provisions and oilman's stores, hardware and rough goods. The falling-off is a natural one: the quantity of goods imported into the country since the war has been abnormal, but is now finding its proper level. The exports consist mainly of wool (53,659*l.*) and mealies (33,883*l.*).

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**

The following table, showing the quantities of the principal articles of produce exported from Singapore and Penang to the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the Continent of Europe during the year 1905, with total figures for the preceding year, has been compiled from statistics furnished by the Registrar of Imports and Exports at Singapore (Mr. A. Stuart):—

*Miscellaneous.*

Principal Articles of Export.	1905.				Total in 1904.
	United Kingdom.	United States of America.	Continent of Europe.	Total.	
Copra ... .. Pikuls	8,000	—	986,000	994,000	712,000
Tin ... .. "	529,000	283,000	143,000	955,000	967,000
Tapioca (flake, pearl and flour) ..	337,000	174,000	164,000	675,000	793,000
Sago flour ... .. "	377,000	47,000	239,000	663,000	656,000
Gambier ... .. "	159,000	223,000	147,000	529,000	540,000
Pepper (black and white) ... .. "	62,000	134,000	111,000	307,000	296,000
Rattans ... .. "	40,000	80,000	164,000	284,000	275,000
Gutta jelotong or East India gum ..	14,000	175,000	13,000	202,000	173,000
Sugar ... .. "	161,000	—	1,000	162,000	112,000
Gum copal ... .. "	38,000	66,000	21,000	125,000	111,000
Preserved pine-apples ... .. Cases	313,000	63,000	53,000	429,000	403,000
Para rubber ... .. Cwts.	1,757	86	77	1,920	105

NOTE—16·8 pikuls = 1 ton.

**ST. LUCIA.**

The following table, showing the value and the direction of the trade of St. Lucia during the year 1904, has been compiled from statistics published in the Blue Book on that Colony. Corresponding figures for the preceding year have been added for purposes of comparison:—

From and To—	Imports.		Exports (Produce and Manufactures of the Colony).	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ... ..	233,559	241,027	36,269	51,045
British Colonies ... ..	34,409	29,401	2,061	12,682
United States of America..	67,253	85,581	6,394	575
Other foreign countries ...	15,865	14,697	34,216	24,299
Total ... ..	351,086	370,706	78,940	88,601

**RUSSIA.**

The "Neue Hamburgische Börsen-Halle" states that, according to the Russian press, it is proposed to impose an excise tax on the production of writing paper in that country. The inferior grades of paper will be free. At the same time an excise tax is also proposed on cigarette paper.

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*Miscellaneous.*

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**GREECE.**

According to a report by the French Chargé d'Affaires at Athens (M. Lefèvre-Pontalis), the average annual production of alcohol in Greece is estimated at 2,500,000 oke, two-thirds of this quantity being obtained from currants. The alcohol chiefly serves for the manufacture of spirits; its use for industrial purposes being almost unknown in Greece. During the last year or two a fairly large amount has also been used for mixing with wine and must, destined for export. The Distillers' Trust have fixed the price of alcohol at 1·20 drachma per oke.

Oke = 2·80 lbs. avoirdupois.

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**ROUMANIA.**

The German Consul at Bucharest writes that the brewing industry of Roumania is one that is likely to undergo considerable development on account of the favour shown towards the native beers. The production has steadily increased of recent years. The excise tax is, however, the highest in Europe. The principal breweries in Bucharest are the Bragadiru, the Luther, the Oppler, the Azuga and the Bucuresci-Noi. Light lager is the customary brew, the slightly stronger dark beer of the Munich kind having but a limited sale.

The supplies of barley needed by the breweries are derived almost entirely from the Moldau. It is stated that, on account of its highly nitrogenous character, this barley is not considered good for brewing purposes. Hops are supplied by Bohemia and Germany in the proportion of nine to one. The development of the petroleum fields has diverted coal supplies from the breweries, and in the malting houses wood has been substituted. Pitch, bottles, rubber bands, &c., come from Germany.

The success of the native beer precludes any foreign import.

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

In the annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1905, of the Secretary of the United States Treasury, it is stated that the total production of distilled spirits in the United States, exclusive of fruit brandies, was 147,810,794 taxable gallons, against 134,311,952 gallons in 1903-4, an increase of 13,498,842 gallons. The production of fruit brandies increased by 255,322 gallons. During the fiscal year 1904-5, 1,772 distilleries of all kinds were in operation, a decrease of 400 as compared with the preceding year. The production of beer was 49,522,029 barrels, an increase of 1,256,861 barrels.

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## STATISTICAL TABLES.

## Cotton Returns.—January, 1906.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the month ended 31st January, 1906, compared with the corresponding Period of the Year 1905.

					MONTH ENDED JANUARY.	
					1906.	1905.
					IMPORTS.	
American ... ..					492,463	422,600
Brazilian ... ..					45,889	5,971
East Indian ... ..					13,189	7,763
Egyptian ... ..					75,709	54,126
Miscellaneous ... ..					6,541	12,700
Total ... ..					633,791*	503,160
					EXPORTS.	
American ... ..					21,285	44,143
Brazilian ... ..					400	328
East Indian ... ..					4,320	1,663
Egyptian ... ..					13,929	10,768
Miscellaneous ... ..					752	234
Total ... ..					40,686	57,136
					FORWARDED FROM PORTS TO INLAND TOWNS.	
American ... ..					285,898	278,870
Brazilian ... ..					17,119	3,084
East Indian ... ..					4,670	5,127
Egyptian ... ..					47,140	32,585
Miscellaneous ... ..					8,367	2,515
Total ... ..					363,194	322,181
					FORWARDED FROM INLAND TOWNS TO PORTS.	
American ... ..					169	349
Brazilian ... ..					—	—
East Indian ... ..					—	—
Egyptian ... ..					—	—
Miscellaneous ... ..					—	—
Total ... ..					169	349

\* Including 159 bales British West Indian and 66 British West African.

Cotton Returns—*continued*.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 5 Weeks ended 1st February, 1906 :—

	Week ended 1st Feb., 1906.			5 Weeks ended 1st Feb., 1906.		Week ended 1st Feb., 1906.			5 Weeks ended 1st Feb., 1906.		
				IMPORTS. (Bales.)				EXPORTS. (Bales.)			
				No.		No.		No.		No.	
American	...	...	...	102,556		516,841		4,283		22,359	
Brazilian	...	...	...	12,709		45,889		—		400	
East Indian	...	...	...	4,473		15,235		593		5,020	
Egyptian	...	...	...	13,936		79,714		3,229		16,929	
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	170		6,629*		207		772	
Total	...	...	...	133,844		664,308		8,312		45,480	

\* Including 159 bales British West Indian and 80 bales British West African.

## Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 3rd February, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

					Average Price.					
					Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
Week ended 3rd February, 1906 ... ..					s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
					28	10	25	1	18	10
Corresponding week in—										
1899 ... ..					26	8	27	2	17	0
1900 ... ..					25	10	25	3	16	5
1901 ... ..					26	8	25	7	17	7
1902 ... ..					27	2	26	9	20	3
1903 ... ..					25	6	23	9	16	11
1904 ... ..					26	9	22	4	15	11
1905 ... ..					30	6	25	0	16	7

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

### Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 3rd February, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 3rd Feb., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	10,484	9,255
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	1,115	5,920
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	171	323
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	116,235	103,992
Mutton ... ..	"	55,070	124,432
Pork ... ..	"	13,225	14,466
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	122,166	109,347
Beef ... ..	"	2,068	1,397
Hams ... ..	"	32,979	16,149
Pork ... ..	"	2,733	5,259
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	14,227	12,512
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	17,700	16,525
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	112,173	69,702
Margarine ... ..	"	21,939	23,098
Cheese ... ..	"	30,401	26,946
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	4	—
" cream ... ..	"	69	81
" condensed ... ..	"	16,932	18,609
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	50	13
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hundr.	269,815	161,197
Poultry ... ..	Value £	28,526	30,012
Game ... ..	"	2,012	2,797
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	6,521	3,596
Lard ... ..	"	63,259	46,872
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,104,700	1,363,900
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	439,600	215,500
Barley ... ..	"	354,000	327,000
Oats ... ..	"	100,600	149,300
Peas ... ..	"	16,120	35,740
Beans ... ..	"	720	22,900
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	1,258,600	1,030,700
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	80,269	88,218
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	29	7
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	87,524	57,457
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	137	172
Lemons ... ..	"	28,325	7,309
Oranges ... ..	"	201,120	196,617
Pears ... ..	"	154	70
Plums ... ..	"	120	37
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	22	1,376
Hay... ..	Tons.	5,372	1,185
Straw ... ..	"	1,911	2,260
Moss Litter ... ..	"	1,960	1,612
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	4,144	3,252
Locust Beans ... ..	"	24,983	40,788
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	174,330	118,752
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	11,180	42,127
Tomatoes ... ..	"	17,810	14,597
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	8,531	6,921
Vegetables, dried ... ..	Cwts.	5,602	4,219
Preserved by canning... ..	"	3,363	2,613

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 9*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 7*d.* for the first and 4*s.* 3*d.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the January issue:—State of the Labour Market in December; Employment in 1905; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1905; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1904; and Wages and Hours of Labour in Hungary.

### LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1906, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	<b>EUROPE—</b>			<b>Netherlands and Colonies:</b>	
	<b>Denmark:</b>		3527	Netherlands Finances	
3525	Denmark (Supplementary) ... .. 1904	1 <i>d.</i>	3524	Netherlands Indies	
				Finances ... .. 1905-6	1½ <i>d.</i>
				Finances ... .. 1905-6	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>German Empire:</b>			<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>	
3526	Bavaria... .. 1904 and	1 <i>d.</i>	3521	<b>Brazil:</b>	
	part of 1905			Santos ... .. 1902-4	2 <i>d.</i>
3523	German Trade with India...	1 <i>d.</i>		<b>WEST INDIES—</b>	
			3522	Cuba (Supplementary) 1904	2 <i>d.</i>

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*February, 1906.*

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes :—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

February 15, 1906.

[No. 481

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 340.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Evaporated bananas from the Seychelles Islands ... ..	15th Feb., 1906	333
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe- { Tientsin	14th Dec., 1905	509
tition with British in ... { Shanghai	5th Oct., 1905	10
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 341.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for War is prepared to receive tenders for the supply of such quantities of coal as may be demanded for (1) the Army Ordnance Department, Royal Arsenal and Dockyard, Woolwich, and the Royal Army Clothing Department, Grosvenor Road, Pimlico, S.W., during the period of 12 months, from the 1st April, 1906; (2) the Ordnance Factories at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield Lock, and the Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey, during the same period.

Forms of tender, showing the approximate quantities and the descriptions required, may be obtained on application at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W. For any further information as to mode of delivery, &c., application should be made to (1) the Assistant Director of Ordnance Stores, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, and the Chief Ordnance Officer, Grosvenor Road, Pimlico, S.W.; and (2) the Chief Superintendent of Ordnance Factories at Woolwich, Enfield Lock, and Waltham Abbey.

Tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by noon on the 26th February for (1), and 28th February for (2).

The Secretary of State for War is also prepared to receive tenders for the supply of such quantities of coal slack as may be demanded at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, during the period of twelve months from 1st April, 1906.

Tenders must be made upon the proper form, which may be obtained on application to the Superintendent, Royal Small Arms Factory, Birmingham, where all necessary information will be furnished.

The tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by noon on 28th February.

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### BRITISH INDIA.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of pig-iron as per specification to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C. Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Pig-iron," not later than noon on Wednesday, the 21st February. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1l. 1s. is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Brass sheets, copper pipes, &c.; undressed waggon covers; cloths, &c.; Yorkshire iron; locomotive boilers; steel fish bolts, nuts and washers; brushes; galvanised corrugated sheets; mild steel for smithy and miscellaneous purposes; galvanised buckets, pans, &c.; tie bars, gibs, &c.; cast iron sleepers, fastenings, chairs, &c.; signal wire posts, brackets, pulleys, &c.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, London, E.C., on payment of the fee for the Specification, which payment will not be returned. Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to Mr. J. I. Berry, Secretary, marked "Tender for Brass Sheets, Copper Pipes, &c.," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 22nd February. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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**CANADA.**

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A firm in the south of Ireland have asked to be placed in communication with leading shippers in Canada of peas, barley or other cereals, canned goods, and makers of standard brands of cheese or similar goods, that might to advantage be imported direct from Canada.

A Liverpool firm in a position to do business in considerable quantities of small wooden handles for buckets, tools, &c., desire to correspond with Canadian manufacturers of these articles.

A London agent is seeking the representation of a good Canadian exporter of doors, joinery, &c.

A London firm have requested to be placed in communication with Canadian producers and shippers of antimony.

A firm doing trade with the Far East, with headquarters in London, desire to obtain quotations from lumbermen in British Columbia for large quantities of white pine shooks for packing purposes.

**Canadian Enquiry.**—A Toronto firm dealing in tailors' trimmings, &c., have asked to be referred to English spool silk manufacturers seeking a market in Canada.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**CANADA**—*continued.*

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information to **Canadian Trade.** regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London tea company ask to be placed in communication with wholesale grocers in Canada prepared to introduce their teas.

A firm in Cardiff desire the addresses of Canadian manufacturers of broom handles and of washing boards, wishing to develop export trade.

A London firm that purchase large quantities of acetate of lime ask for the addresses of Canadian producers.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Canadian correspondent wishes to be placed in communication with United Kingdom importers prepared to contract for large supplies of phosphate of lime.

A Canadian manufacturer of colours desires the addresses of United Kingdom manufacturers of paranitraniline, also of nitrate of lead, bichromate of potash, beta naphthol, bichromate of soda, and whiting.

A Toronto Company ask to be placed in communication with United Kingdom manufacturers of dressed sheep skins, and report that they can place orders for quantities of fancy leathers.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Canadian Government City Trade Branch have received a letter from a timber-merchant company in Ontario, said to be possessed of 50,000 acres of timbered lands, relative to the establishment of a plant for the production of wood spirit. It is thought the matter may possibly be of interest to large consumers of wood spirit or others in this country. Further particulars may be obtained at the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Possible  
Opportunity for  
British  
Enterprise.

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**AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

With reference to the notice on p. 147 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th January, relating to a call for tenders for the supply of white cotton waste to the Public Stores, Port Adelaide, it should be noted that the time for receiving tenders has been extended from the 27th February to the 13th March next.

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White Cotton  
Waste.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### CAPE COLONY.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of the 23rd January notifies that sealed tenders, marked **Leather, Tools, &c., used in Boot Making.** "Tender for Boots, &c., for Breakwater Convict Station," will be received at the office of the Controller and Auditor-General, Cape Town, until 30th March, 1906, from persons willing to supply all or any of the articles (comprising leather and other materials, tools, &c., used in boot making) required for use in the various convict stations and gaols in the colony.

The "Gazette" containing the form of tender, conditions of contract, and schedule of the articles required, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### NORWAY.

The Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) reports that he has been asked for the names of Irish exporters of hides and sheep skins. **Irish Hides and Sheep Skins.** Communications, stating full description of what can be offered and lowest possible prices, should be addressed to the Acting British Consul-General, Christiania.

Referring to the notice on p. 247 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th February, the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania has now forwarded detailed particulars relative to the call for tenders **Truck Tarpaulins and Hemp Cloth.** for the supply to the Norwegian State Railways of 260 truck tarpaulins and 1,900 metres of hemp cloth, together with a sample of the cloth from which tarpaulins were made under the last contract. The sample and particulars, which include the special conditions, sheet of drawings for broad and narrow-gauge goods trucks, and the general regulations for tendering to the Norwegian State Railways, may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Tenders from British firms should be lodged in Christiania by their properly accredited agents not later than 3 p.m. on the 2nd March.

The Acting Consul-General at Christiania has also forwarded particulars of a call for tenders for the supply to the Norwegian Telegraph Department of the following material:—

- Telegraph Material.**
- 3 tons 1.25 m/m bronze wire;
  - 500 metres 26-pair branch cable;
  - 25,000 „ double tar wire, spun together;
  - 200,000 „ double wire;

### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **NORWAY**—*continued.*

900 kilos. sal ammoniac;  
 2,700 „ copper vitriol;  
 1,000 „ gum arabia;  
 Battery zinc and Morse paper.

Tenders from British firms should be lodged in Christiania by their properly accredited agents not later than noon on the 21st February. Specifications and forms of tender (in Norwegian) may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Agents can obtain forms of tender from the Technical Department of the Board of Telegraphs in Christiania, or the Inspector of Telegraphs at Trondhjem, Bergen, Stavanger, or Arendal.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch have further received from the Acting Consul-General copies of notices inviting tenders for the following:—

1. Supply of 0.6 metre gauge transport material to the Western portion of the Bergen State Railway as follows:—  

<b>Railway Transport Material.</b>	Wheels and bearing boxes (cast, turned wheels with 300 mm. wheel diameter, 60 mm. steel axles with 50 mm. outside pivots and accompanying two bearing boxes for roll bearings, 36 axles).
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Wheels with axles, but no bearing boxes, 15 axles.

The material is to be delivered c.i.f. Bergen, duty paid. Tenders should state date of delivery and name of manufacturer, and should be accompanied by drawings showing construction of material. Tenders from British firms should be addressed, by their properly accredited agents, to “Overingeniörens Kontor, Vossevangen,” where they will be received up to the 1st March. As this place is a few days’ post from Christiania, tenderers should bear this in mind when instructing their agents, and allow for time accordingly.

2. Supply of tools and sundries (including 25 dozen galvanised buckets, 2,100 kilos. double picks, 500 kilos. pack picks, 500 kilos. bearing metal (Babbitt), 116 dozen spades, 12 screw jacks, &c.) to the Bergen State Railway.

The goods are to be delivered as required by railway c.i.f. or f.o.b. Bergen within 14 days from ordering. Tenders from British firms should be addressed by their agents as in (1), the date to which tenders will be received being also the same. Tenders should state whether goods are of Norwegian manufacture, together with the name of the manufacturer, and should be accompanied by drawing, models or samples showing construction and nature of tools.

### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **NORWAY**—*continued.*

3. Supply to the Norwegian Naval Authorities of 371 dozen files of various descriptions. Tenders will be received not later than the 27th February. In regard to this contract, the Acting Consul-General is asking the Authorities for a supply of specifications, &c., and will forward them as soon as received to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

*Note.*—Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

#### **NETHERLANDS.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Rotterdam **Iron and Wire.** (Mr. H. Turing), that the Netherlands Colonial Office at the Hague will receive tenders, up to the 28th February, for the supply of the following materials:—

Contract Lit. L 12.—229,770 kilos. of beam iron.

18,940 „ „ “Zorès” iron.

Contract No. 413.—20,000 kilos. of zincd steel wire, thickness 3.1 mm.

70,000 kilos. of zincd steel wire, thickness 4.1 mm.

Contract Lit. M 12.—1,000 kilos. of silicium bronze wire, thickness 1.5 mm.

A copy of each of the specifications (in Dutch) may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

#### **DENMARK.**

The “Berlingske Tidende,” of 10th February, contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply of 29,000 kilos. of copper wire, 21,000 kilos. of sulphate of copper, 28,000 insulators, and other articles for the use of the Telegraph Administration. Conditions may be obtained on application to the Engineer’s Department of the Administration (“Telegrafdirektoratets tekniske Afdeling”), 28, Frederiksholms Kanal, Copenhagen, at which address tenders will be received up to midday on 26th February.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 5th February, contains a Royal Decree appointing a Commission to report on **Submarine Cable.** the most efficacious and speedy means of establishing a submarine cable between Cadiz and Santa Cruz (Teneriffe).

The "Gaceta" of 6th February, contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the Chief **Electric Telegraph Office, 10, Carretas, Madrid,** for the **Zinc Cylinders.** supply of 35,000 zinc cylinders for Callaud pile, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta." The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 1,600 pesetas (about 51*l.*) per thousand cylinders. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods tendered for is required to qualify any tender.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 8th March, at the **Railway Plant.** Directorate General of Public Works, Madrid, for the concession to construct and work a railway from Val de Zafán to Tortosa or San Carlos de la Rápita. The competition will turn in the first place on a reduction of the subsidy proposed (5,715,300 pesetas or about 184,961*l.*), and if two or more identical propositions are made, on a reduction of the tariffs for cargo and passengers. A deposit of 57,153 pesetas, (about 1,849*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" of 8th February contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 11th April, at the **Electric Tramway Plant.** Directorate-General of Public Works, Madrid, for the concession of an electric tramway in Madrid. An application for this concession has already been made by Don José Algibez Pérez who, at the same rates, will enjoy certain preferential rights over other tenderers. The competition will turn, in the first place, on a reduction of the tariff of fares and rates for goods proposed, and if two or more identical propositions are made, a further competition will take place verbally as to any reduction tenderers may be prepared to accept of the period (60 years) of the concession.

A deposit of 4,295 pesetas (about 139*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" of 10th February contains a Law authorising the Spanish Government to grant a concession to **Railway Plant.** construct and work a narrow gauge steam railway from Vilches, on the Córdoba-Manzanares line, to Baños de la Encina. The term of the concession is fixed at 99 years.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**ROUMANIA.**

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that the Municipality of Hitesci will shortly invite tenders for the establishment of an electric lighting system in that town.

**Electric  
Lighting Plant.**

According to a recent report by the United States Consul-General at Bucharest, there is a market in Roumania for manufactured articles of all kinds, especially furniture, sewing machines, motor cars, bicycles, typewriting machines, locks and keys, silverware, boots and shoes, cloth, and hats. The Consul-General thinks that the domination of the Roumanian market by Austria-Hungary and Germany is due not so much to their proximity as to the absence of keen competition.

**Furniture,  
Sewing Machines,  
Motor Cars,  
Bicycles, &c.. &c.**

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**BULGARIA.**

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that tenders will shortly be opened at the Ministry of War, Sofia, for the construction of a canal between the lake of Devna and the port of Varna at the estimated cost of about 54,400*l*.

**Canal  
Construction.**

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**OTTOMAN EMPIRE.**

From a report by the Commercial Department of the German Consulate at Constantinople on the importation of iron and ironware into Turkey, it appears that between 1899 and 1903 Germany increased her imports five-fold, and wrested from Belgium the predominant position in this trade. This does not take into consideration Germany's exceptionally large importations in connection with the Baghdad railway, which do not appear till 1904. During that year and the first half of 1905 Germany's importations constituted a record both in quantity and value. Belgium continues to be Germany's principal competitor, especially in constructional iron and wire nails. Cheapness is the great essential.

**Iron and  
Ironware.**

The most important articles of import are bar-iron and hoop-iron.

Girders, chiefly from Belgium, by reason of low prices, are also an increasing import, building being active. In rails, iron plates and sheets, Germany is making headway, whilst the United Kingdom has profited by the rising demand for tinplates.

In cast iron pipes the United States are beginning to compete, though not yet to any appreciable extent. The United Kingdom leads in wrought iron pipes, but Germany is threatening this branch also.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **OTTOMAN EMPIRE**—*continued.*

The quickly-growing demand for waggons is chiefly supplied by France.

A noteworthy article amongst cutlery imports is a pocket-knife used by fruit sellers, consisting of a rough wooden haft without a spring and a stout short blade. As regards razors, there is very little sale for other than the poorest quality.

A recent report of the German Consulate at Constantinople on the paper trade of Turkey, shows that in spite of Austria-Hungary's large share, amounting to one-half of the total imports of paper and paper manufactures into that country, Germany is competing very successfully, and seems to indicate that the Turkish market is worth special attention at the present time.

The descriptions in which Germany's imports have increased in value are rough packing paper; coloured, silver and gold paper; and wall-paper. There is an increasing sale for "cellulose" packing paper, especially in Constantinople and the larger ports.

### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. Seymour Bell) reports that he has been asked for the names and addresses of (1) manufacturers of English Vandyke brown and carbonate of magnesia; and (2) shippers of Australian mallet bark, stated to be a new material suitable for tanning purposes.

Communications from British manufacturers and shippers should be addressed to the British Commercial Agent, British Consulate General, New York.

The British Commercial Agent has also forwarded a copy of Circular No. 297 calling for tenders for the supply of miscellaneous articles (including iron and steel manufactures of various kinds, machinery, leather belting, &c.) to the Isthmian Canal Commission. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at the office of the General Purchasing Officer, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington D.C., until 10.30 a.m. on the 19th February. A copy of the specifications may be inspected at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., although the time allowed only admits of firms tendering who have arrangements with their agents which can be availed of by cable.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**MEXICO.**

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 15th January, notifies applications by:—(1) Señor Antonio Pliego Pérez for an appropriation of 1,000 litres of water per second from the river Sinaloa, State of Sinaloa, for metal refining purposes; (2) Señor Manuel Calero, for an appropriation of 10,000 litres per second from the river Ixmiquilpan, State of Hidalgo, for the production of motive power.

The "Diario" of 18th January notifies applications by:—(1) Señor José López Portillo y Rojas, for an appropriation of 2,550 litres per second from the river Santiago, State of Jalisco, for the production of motive power; and (2) Mr. Angus H. McLean for an appropriation from the river Grande de Misantla, State of Veracruz, for similar purposes.

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**CHILE.**

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 29th December, contains a Decree granting Don Victor Hudtvalcker, representing the Iquique Lighting Co. the concession for the electric lighting of Iquique for a term of ten years.

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**ARGENTINA.**

The "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Ayres) of 12th January announces that a company has been formed in La Plata, with a capital of 40,000 dollars, for the installation of cold storage chambers, and a tender for the installation has already been accepted. Commenting on this announcement, the "Review" remarks that there is a very large field for the installation of cold storage in the large cities throughout the Republic, and a considerable move in this direction is expected before very long.

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**FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.****NETHERLANDS.**

Referring to the notice on p. 251 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal," the Acting British Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. F. A. Chambers) now reports that the Exhibition to be held at Leeuwarden in July and August next, is international in character, and that foreign products and manufactures will be welcome. A number of programmes and forms of application for space (in Dutch), together with a translation of the form, have been received, and may be obtained on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**ITALY.**

With reference to the notice on pages 343-4 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 23rd November last, and to previous notices, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the British Commission for the Milan International Exhibition a translation of the rules regarding the constitution, duties, awards, &c., of the Jury of Award, together with a copy of special instructions to exhibitors in the British Section, particulars of the railway rebates on the transport of exhibits, and a list of the present members of the Commission. These documents may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey) has forwarded a memorandum of sundry particulars which have appeared in the Milan Press respecting the exhibition. Detailed particulars are given as to the part taken by the respective countries exhibiting. Since the 1st of January an office has been established for receiving exhibits on their arrival and transferring them to their respective sections. The "temporary" (or "short period") exhibits, namely of chemical and pharmaceutical products, perfumery, sporting weapons, photographs, musical instruments, toys, &c., will last from the 1st June to the close of the exhibition, and will compete for prizes. The time for receiving applications for admission expires on the 28th February. Among the several competitions to take place, there will be one for a prize of 2,000 lire for a plough by steam or funicular traction, another of 2,000 lire for a plough driven by electricity, besides a first prize of 500 lire and a second prize of 250 lire for automobiles for agricultural purposes.

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul-General at Vienna copy of a prospectus of an International Exhibition of Inventions to be held at Olmütz from 15th June to the middle of September, 1907. The aim of the Exhibition is to afford a display of the latest types of machinery and appliances used in trade, industry and agriculture.

A copy of the prospectus (in German) and form of application for space may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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## LISTS OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF BRITISH GOODS ABROAD.

The Board of Trade receive, from time to time, from H.M. Representatives in foreign countries and their own Correspondents in the Colonies, lists of importers and dealers likely to purchase British goods. These lists may be consulted by British manufacturers and traders at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., to which office also applications for extracts from them should be addressed.

Attention is now called to a list, which has recently been prepared, containing names supplied by H.M. Consular officers in Cuba, and dealing with the following towns, viz.:—Havana, Cardenas, Cienfuegos, Matanzas, and Santiago de Cuba. The classes of goods, some or all of which are dealt with in each of the lists, are the following:—Bags (jute), chemical products, coal, groceries (provisions), ironmongery, machinery, paints, textile goods.

The following similar notices in regard to other recently compiled lists have appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal"—Spain and the Canary Islands, p. 12, 4th January, 1906; Netherlands, p. 345, 23rd November, 1905; Roumania, p. 586, 28th September; Sweden, p. 393, 31st August; Bulgaria, p. 487, 15th June; Greece, p. 202, 4th May; Belgium, p. 205, 2nd February, 1905.

## COTTON IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement of the quantity (in cwts.) of cotton consigned to the United Kingdom during the three months ending 31st December, 1905, compared with the corresponding period of 1904, has been prepared in the Board of Trade:—

Country whence Consigned.	Three Months ending 31st Dec., 1905.	Three Months ending 31st Dec., 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1905 as compared with 1904.
<b>(A) Consigned from Foreign Countries—</b>	<b>Cwts.</b>	<b>Cwts.</b>	<b>Cwts.</b>
America ... ..	5,086,413	7,149,146	— 2,062,733
Brazil ... ..	171,548	27,735	+ 143,813
Egypt ... ..	1,078,828	983,609	+ 95,219
Other countries ... ..	63,855	49,739	+ 14,116
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>6,400,644</b>	<b>8,210,229</b>	<b>— 1,809,585</b>
<b>(B) Consigned from Places in the British Empire—</b>			
East Indies ... ..	198,216	46,875	+ 151,341
British West Indies ... ..	822	346	+ 476
British West Africa ... ..	2,263	3,865	— 1,602
British Central Africa ... ..	2,470	—	+ 2,470
British East Africa ... ..	116	—	+ 116
British Guiana and Honduras ... ..	4	4	—
Canada ... ..	850	—	+ 850
Other British Possessions ... ..	24	—	+ 24
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>204,765</b>	<b>51,090</b>	<b>+ 153,675</b>
<b>Grand total ... ..</b>	<b>6,605,409</b>	<b>8,261,319</b>	<b>— 1,655,910</b>

## SUGGESTED EXTENDED CULTIVATION IN INDIA OF RUBBER, CAMPHOR, AND OTHER PRODUCTS.

The Bombay Chamber of Commerce has addressed to the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bombay, certain suggestions for the cultivation and exploitation by the Government, of the forest products of India, in particular rubber and camphor. It is pointed out that the unprecedented use of these by European manufacturers of late, demands an almost inexhaustible supply of the raw material. It is generally acknowledged that the natural sources of supply have already been over-exploited, and it is therefore believed the time has now come when these commodities might be produced in India on a more practical and scientific basis, as is done in the matter of tea, coffee, cinchona and other commercial products of like nature.

**Rubber.**—Among the varieties of rubber which the Chamber consider might be generally cultivated with advantage to both the commerce and revenue of the country are indigenous rubbers such as "*Ficus elastica*," the caoutchouc tree of Assam. Experiments have already proved that the tree grows well not only in Assam, but also in Malabar, Belgaum and other localities in Southern India, and there is, says the Chamber, every reason to believe that it would thrive as well along the lower hills of the Western Ghats.

Of foreign varieties of rubber-yielding trees, those recommended as holding out the greatest promise of success in Western and Southern India are the *Castilloa elastica* from Central America, the Para rubber tree, and the Ceara rubber tree of Brazil.

**Camphor.**—Definite information is not available regarding previous experiments made to introduce the cultivation and manufacture of camphor into India; but that some such experiments have been undertaken is evident from the number of flourishing Chinese camphor trees that may be seen in certain parts of the country. It is, therefore, reasonable to suppose that instead of yearly importing over sixteen lakhs of rupees worth of China and Japan camphor, India might itself be made a source of supply. There is reason to believe that if extended experiments were made, not only could the China camphor tree be easily reintroduced, but that indigenous varieties of camphor yielding plants might also be successfully cultivated.

The Chamber further suggest the exploitation of cassava, prickly pear (as fodder for cattle), and gum Jingan.

They suggest also that there is a vast field open for the improvement of all kinds of Indian fruit. The reduction or entire elimination of seed offers openings for various experiments in this direction. A comparatively seedless mango for example would be much appreciated. The recently discovered method of preserving fruit in vacuum tins lends itself to transportation of fruit throughout India as well as to foreign markets.

And lastly, it is believed that vanilla, cardamoms, nutmegs, pepper and cloves would all thrive in Western and Southern India.

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## DEATH DUTIES ON ESTATES IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL AND NATIONAL TERRITORIES OF ARGENTINA.

With reference to the article on the above subject published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 30th November, 1905, p. 393, a despatch has been received from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Aires (Mr. F. D. Harford), forwarding, in response to an enquiry, an amended table showing the scale of values of estates in accordance with which the estate duties are levied at the percentages stated. The following table should therefore be substituted for the one previously given in the notice above referred to:—

	\$100 to \$10,000.	\$10,001 to \$50,000.	\$50,001 to \$100,000.	\$100,001 to \$250,000.	\$250,001 to \$500,000.	\$500,001 to \$1,000,000.	Above \$1,000,000.
Direct line or between husband and wife ... ..	Per cent. 1	Per cent. 1·25	Per cent. 1·50	Per cent. 1·75	Per cent. 2	Per cent. 2·25	Per cent. 2·50
Collateral line—							
2nd degree ... ..	4	4·50	5·00	5·50	6	6·50	7·00
3rd degree ... ..	5	5·50	6·00	6·50	7	7·50	8·00
4th degree ... ..	6	6·50	7·00	7·50	8	8·50	9·00
5th degree ... ..	7	7·50	8·00	8·50	9	9·50	10·00
6th degree ... ..	8	8·50	9·00	9·50	10	10·50	11·00
Other relations and persons not connected ... ..	10	10·50	11·00	11·50	12	12·50	13·00

NOTE.—Direct line or between husband and wife up to 5,000 dols. is exempt from estate duty.

## IMPORTATION INTO INDIA OF ESSENCES FOR FLAVOURING COLOURLESS SPIRIT.

Enquiries having recently been received at the India Office from British firms as to the conditions governing the importation into India of essences for flavouring colourless spirit, it has been thought desirable to publish the following notice on the subject, prepared in that Office:—

Essences for flavouring colourless spirit, are assessed to Customs duty on importation into India as follows:—

If imported already mixed with spirit, they are assessed at the same rate as is chargeable on ordinary potable spirit under Article 1 of Schedule III of the Indian Tariff Act 1894, as amended, viz., at Rs. 7\* per Imperial gallon of the strength of

\* NOTE.—This rate comes into effect on the 26th February, 1906, in supersession of the previous rate of Rs. 6.

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*Importation into India of Essences for Flavouring Colourless Spirit.*

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London proof, the duty being increased or reduced in proportion as the strength of the spirit exceeds or is less than London proof.

If imported by themselves, they are treated as follows:—

(a) If found not to contain spirit, they are treated as chemical preparations, and duty is assessed at 5 per cent. *ad valorem* under Article 10 of Schedule IV of the Tariff Act.

(b) If found to contain spirit in a proportion of less than 20 per cent. London proof, duty is assessed at 5 per cent. *ad valorem* under Article 1 of Schedule III of the Tariff Act.

(c) If found to contain spirit in a proportion of 20 per cent. and upwards, duty is assessed at Rs. 7 per Imperial gallon of the strength of London proof under the same Article, the duty being increased or reduced in proportion as the strength of the spirit exceeds or is less than London proof.

Manufacture of liquors by means of the essences in question can only be carried on in India subject to the conditions of a license granted by the local Excise authorities in accordance with the provisions of the Excise Acts in force in the different provinces.

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## FORTHCOMING APPLICATION OF NEW RUSSIAN CUSTOMS TARIFF.

The Board of Trade are in receipt of information to the effect that the New Customs Tariff of Russia, as amended by Treaties, will definitely come into force on the 1st March, and that it has been decided that goods which have not been cleared through the Customs before that date, even though they may have entered on the 28th February, or earlier, will not be allowed to benefit by the rates of the existing Tariff.

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## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES. RUSSIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Ambassador at St. Petersburg, reporting that, with a view to assisting the Baku naphtha industry and to supplying industries and shipping companies with fuel, it has been decided, if the necessity of such measures be proved, to admit naphtha into ports on the Black Sea or on the Sea of Azov free of duty, and to reduce the duty on coal imported at those ports to 1½ copecks per pound. These reductions are to apply, however, for a period of one year only.

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**Proposed  
Temporary Free  
Admission of  
Naphtha and  
Reduction of  
Duty on Coal.**

*Proposed Tariff Changes.***SPAIN.**

With reference to the notice which appeared on page 67 of the "Journal" for the 11th January on the subject of a Bill for the revision of the Spanish Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade have now received information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that this Bill has been enacted, with certain amendments.

A translation of the Law in its amended form, stating the ranges of the *ad valorem* limits within which the new specific duties on the several categories of imports (raw materials, foodstuffs, manufactured articles, &c.) are to be assessed, may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

**BRITISH INDIA.**

A notice will be found on p. 309 setting forth the conditions governing the importation into India of Essences for flavouring Colourless Spirit.

The following further list of the general duties under the Import Tariff of British India is in continuation of Tariff Valuations. that published on pp. 269-273 of last week's "Journal":—

**SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—continued.**

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
13	<p><b>METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METALS.</b></p> <p>Hardware and cutlery, including ironmongery and plated ware, and also including machines, tools, and implements to be worked by manual or animal labour. [<i>Exceptions, which are free:</i> (i) Water-lifts, sugar-mills, oil-presses, and parts thereof, and any other machines and parts of machines ordinarily used in processes of husbandry, or for the preparation for use or for sale of the products of husbandry, which the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the "Gazette of India," exempt; (ii.) the following agricultural implements, when constructed so that they can be worked by manual or animal power, namely, winnowers, threshers, mowing and reaping machines, elevators, seed-crushers, chaff-cutters, root-cutters, horse and bullock gears, ploughs, cultivators, scarifiers, harrows, clod-crushers, seed-drills, hay-tedders, and rakes; (iii.) the following dairy appliances, when constructed so that they can be worked by manual or animal power, namely, cream separators, milk sterilizing or pasteurizing plant, milk aerating and cooling apparatus, churns, butter dryers and butter workers; (iv.) the following articles used in the</p>	...	<i>ad val.</i>	%

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.***SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF**—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	METALS, &c.— <i>contd.</i>		R. a.	
	Hardware and cutlery, &c.— <i>contd.</i>			
	manufacture of cotton, namely, bobbins (warping), forks for looms, healds, heald cords, heald knitting needles, laces, lags and needles for dobbies, pickers (buffalo and others), picking bands, picking levers, picking sticks (over and under), reed pliers, reeds, shuttles (for power looms), springs for looms, strappings, and weft forks; (v.) box backs and swells and rough unshaped bobbin ends, when imported by or on behalf of a manufacturer or mill-owner, and certified by him to be intended exclusively for use in his mill.]	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
14	Machinery, namely, prime-movers, and component parts thereof, including boilers and component parts thereof; also including locomotive and portable engines, steam-rollers, fire-engines, and other machines in which the prime-mover is not separable from the operative parts ... ..	...	...	Free.
	Machinery (and component parts thereof), meaning machines or sets of machines to be worked by electric, steam, water, fire, or other power not being manual or animal labour, or which before being brought into use require to be fixed with reference to other moving parts; and including belting of all materials for driving machinery ...	...	...	Free.
	Provided that the term does not include tools and implements to be worked by manual or animal labour, and provided also that only such articles shall be admitted as component parts of machinery as are indispensable for the working of the machinery and are, owing to their shape or to other special quality, not adapted for any other purpose.			
	<i>Note.</i> —Machinery and component parts thereof made of substances other than metal are included in this entry.			
15	Metals, unwrought and wrought, and articles made of metals—			
	Brass, orsidue and leaves, European ...	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
	"    "    "    "    China ...	...	"	"
	"    patent or yellow metal, sheathing, sheets, braziers, and plates.	cwt.	46 0	"
	"    patent or yellow metal, sheathing, sheets, braziers, and plates (old).	"	31 0	"
	"    sheets, flat or in rolls, very thin ...	"	145 0	"
	"    wire ...	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	"    all other sorts...	...	"	"
	Copper, bolt and bar, rolled ...	...	"	"
	"    brazier's and sheets up to $\frac{3}{8}$ in. thick	cwt.	56 0	"
	"    nails and composition nails...	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	"    old ...	cwt.	42 0	"

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

BRITISH INDIA—continued.

SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	<b>METALS, &amp;C.—<i>contd.</i></b>			
	<b>Metals, unwrought and wrought—<i>contd.</i></b>			
	Copper pigs, tiles, ingots, cakes, bricks, and slabs.	cwt.	R. a. 53 0	5 %
	„ plate over $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick and sheathing,		60 0	„
	„ China, white, copperware ...	lb.	1 2	„
	„ foil or dankpana, white, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.	hundred leaves	1 14	„
	„ foil or dankpana, coloured, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.	„	2 0	„
	„ wire, including phosphor-bronze ...	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ all other sorts, unmanufactured and manufactured, except current coin of the Government of India, which is free.	...	„	„
	German silver ... ..	...	„	„
	Gold bullion and coin ... ..	...	...	Free.
	„ leaf ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
	Iron, anchors and cables ... ..	...	„	1 %
	„ Lowmoor and similar qualities, of all descriptions.	...	„	„
	„ angle, T, other than Lowmoor or Swedish.	ton	100 0	„
	„ angle, T, other than Lowmoor or Swedish, if galvanised, tinned or lead-coated,	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ bar ... ..	...	150 0	„
	„ „ Swedish and similar qualities ...	ton	155 0	„
	„ „ „ „ „ nail-rod, round rod, and square, under half an inch in diameter.	„	„	„
	Iron bar, other kinds ... ..	„	100 0	„
	„ „ „ nail-rod, round rod, and square, under half an inch in diameter.	„	105 0	„
	„ „ other kinds, if galvanised, tinned or lead-coated.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ beams, joists, pillars, girders, bridge-work, and other such descriptions of iron imported exclusively for building purposes.	...	„	„
	„ channel, including channel for carriages	...	„	„
	„ plate and sheet, Swedish and charcoal bars, plates, and sheets, Swedish and charcoal, if galvanised, tinned or lead-coated	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ plate, other kinds, above $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick, and strips	ton	100 0	„
	„ sheets, other kinds, up to $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick	„	115 0	„
	„ plates, sheets (other than corrugated), and strips other kinds, galvanised, tinned, lead-coated, or planished.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	<b>METALS, &amp;C.—<i>contd.</i></b>		R. a.	
	Metals, unwrought and wrought— <i>contd.</i>			
	Iron sheets, corrugated, galvanised, or black.	ton	180 0	1 %
	„ hoop ... ..	„	115 0	„
	„ nails, rose, wire and flat-headed ...	cwt.	8 8	„
	„ „ other kinds, including galvanised, tinned, or lead-coated.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ nuts and bolts, also hooks and nuts for roofing, galvanised or black.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ old ... ..	cwt.	2 0	„
	„ pig ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ pipes and tubes, including fittings therefor, such as bends, boots, elbows, tees, sockets, flanges, and the like.	...	„	„
	„ rails, chairs, sleepers, and fishplates, other than those described in No. 60, also spikes (commonly known as dog spikes), switches, crossings, lever boxes, clips, and tie-bars.	...	„	„
	„ rice-bowls ... ..	...	„	„
	„ ridging, guttering, and continuous roofing.	...	„	„
	„ rivets and washers, all sorts ... ..	...	„	„
	„ wire, including fencing wire and wire rope, but excluding wire netting.	...	„	„
	„ cans, tinned, when imported containing petroleum which is separately assessed to duty at one anna per imperial gallon under No. 16.	can	0 3	5 %
	„ all other sorts, including discs or circles and wire netting.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	Lametta ... ..	...	„	„
	Lead, all sorts (except sheets for tea-chests, which are free).	...	„	„
	Quicksilver ... ..	lb.	1 9	„
	Shot, bird ... ..	cwt.	15 0	„
	Silver bullion or coin, except current coin of the Government of India, which is free.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	Steel, anchors and cables ... ..	...	„	1 %
	„ blooms ... ..	...	„	„
	„ angle, T ... ..	ton	100 0	„
	„ „ and hoop, if galvanised, tinned, or lead-coated.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ bars (other than cast steel) ... ..	ton	100 0	„
	„ „ Swedish ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ „ nail-rod, round rod, and square, under ½ in. in diameter.	ton	105 0	„
	„ bar, galvanised, tinned, lead-coated, planished, or polished.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	„
	„ channel, including channel for carriages.	...	„	„

(To be continued.)

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of the "Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act, 1905" (No. 16 of 1905) relating to Commerce with other Countries, which was assented to by the Commonwealth Government on 8th December, 1905.

The Act is to be incorporated with the Customs Act of 1901, and is to come into operation on a day to be fixed by Proclamation, which is not to be earlier than six months after the passing of the Act.

Provision is made for the inspection of imports and exports, and also, under Sections 7, 11, and 14 of the Act, for the prohibition of the importation and exportation into or from Australia of certain goods not bearing prescribed "trade descriptions," viz. :—

(a) Articles used for food or drink by man, or used in the manufacture or preparation of articles used for food or drink by man ; or

(b) Medicines or medicinal preparations for internal or external use.

(c) Manures.

(d) Apparel (including boots and shoes) and the materials for which such apparel is manufactured.

(e) Jewellery ; or

(f) Seeds and plants.

A penalty of 100*l.* is imposed in the case of persons importing or exporting goods to which a "false trade description" is applied—the goods in such cases being forfeited.

It is further provided that the regulations respecting the prohibition of the importation or exportation of the above articles shall not prescribe a "trade description" which discloses trade secrets of manufacture or preparation, unless in the opinion of the Governor-General, the disclosure is necessary for the protection of the health or welfare of the public.

A copy of the Act under notice may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**NEW ZEALAND.**

A copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 7th December last has been received, which contains a Commissioner's Order (No. 790), issued by the Department of Trade and Customs on 5th December, 1905, and giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on the undermentioned articles imported into New Zealand :—

**Customs  
Decisions.**

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### NEW ZEALAND—continued.

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Bessemer steel converters— As manufactures, n.o.e. of metal ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Chair-seats, rush, and also of pressed wood, with embossed pattern— As furniture, n.o.c. ... ..	25 % „
Flax-knives— As agricultural implements ... ..	Free.
Glue, T. K. gelatine— As glue... ..	1½ <i>d.</i> per lb.
Inks, blue and red ruling— As ink, writing ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Languagephones— As fancy goods ... ..	20 % „
Machine, the Bradford collar and cuff ironing— As hardware ... ..	20 % „
Tube-cleaner, for boiler, and turbine-tube cleaner— As machinery, n.o.e. ... ..	20 % „
Twine, Hornsby's 3-ply— As binder-twine ... ..	Free.

### SELANGOR.

A copy of the “Selangor Government Gazette” for 5th January last has been received, which contains a Notification (No. 5 of 1906), cancelling the duty of 1½ per cent. *ad valorem* imposed by Notification No. 546 of 1905\* on cultivated rubber exported from the Malay State of Selangor, and imposing in lieu thereof a duty of 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* on such rubber, from and after 1st January, 1906.

### GRENADA.

A copy of the “Grenada Government Gazette” for 3rd January, 1906, has been received, which contains rules framed by the Governor-in-Council under the authority of the “Customs Ordinance, 1894.” The rules laid down provide that all bills of entry, shipping bills and outward manifests presented to the Treasurer shall be prepared in accordance with the official Import List, and no document may be received by the Treasurer which does not conform to the details prescribed therein.

A copy of this Official Import List of merchandise imported into Grenada, which shows the description of article, the denomination required, and the rate of duty imposed, may be seen on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

\* See “Board of Trade Journal” for 30th November, 1905, p. 402.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### CYPRUS.

A copy of the "Cyprus Gazette" for 12th January, 1906, has been received, which contains an Order-in-Council, dated 3rd January, 1906, notifying that, from that date, the import duty to be levied on "Fish Oils," which the Customs authorities have reason to think are imported into Cyprus for the manufacture of leather, shall be 4s. 5 $\frac{1}{3}$ d. per 100 oke, instead of 2l. as heretofore.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains an Order-in-Council, dated 3rd January, 1906, cancelling so much of the Order-in-Council of 9th February, 1901 (No. 5,496), as imposes restrictions in regard to the quantity of cartridges that may be imported at the Port of Limassol.

**Reduction of  
Import Duty on  
certain Fish Oils.**

**Restrictions  
withdrawn of  
Importation of  
Cartridges at  
Limassol.**

### RUSSIA.

**Forthcoming Application  
of new Customs Tariff.** See notice on p. 309.

### RUSSIA—FINLAND.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the Customs Tariff of Finland, which have recently been issued by the Finnish Customs Department:—

[Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs. avoirdupois. Finnish Mark = 9·6d.]

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
<i>Hammocks—</i>	Finnish Marks.
Of twisted cotton, hemp, linen, or jute yarn (including twine), knotted ... ..	100 kilogs. ... 70·60 + 20 per cent.
Of cotton or other tissues ... ..	Duty on the stuff of which made + 20 per cent.
<i>Common wall clocks of wood</i> , the works of which contain brass wheels but no wooden wheels	Each ... 2·00
<i>Agar-agar</i> ... ..	100 kilogs. ... 1·80
<i>Common unpainted baskets</i> of unpeeled willow, intended for the packing of goods ... ..	Free.
<i>Bone fat—</i>	
<i>Solid</i> , chiefly used as leather dressing or as raw material in soap factories, &c. ... ..	100 kilogs. ... 4·70
<i>Liquid</i> (neat's foot oil) ... ..	" ... 11·80
<i>Solution of bisulphite of calcium</i> , used as a disin- fectant, or in the manufacture of wood pulp ...	" ... 1·20

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

#### **SWITZERLAND.**

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" for the 3rd January publishes the following decisions of the Swiss Customs Department relative to the classification of articles under the new Swiss Tariff:—

#### **Customs Decisions.**

Articles.	No. of Tariff under which dutable.	Rate of Duty.
		Frs. cts. Per 100 kilogs.
Coco-nut oil, crude, destined for consumption ...	73	2 00
Chemical embroideries ... ..	387	100 00

The Swiss Department of Finance and Customs has decided that the substance to be employed for the denaturation of flour intended for cattle food, for which duty-free admission is claimed under No. 216 (a) of the new Swiss Tariff, shall be the nitrate, acetate, or hydrochlorate of rosaniline, free from arsenic, powdered, and mixed with the flour in the proportion of 5 grammes to each 100 kilogs. (net) of flour.

Such denaturation may be effected at the place of despatch, on the journey, or at the frontier or frontier railway station; but the flour must not be entered for importation at the Custom-house until after denaturation. Certain Customs officers (*les directions d'arrondissement*) are also authorised to permit denaturation at federal warehouses, if space permits.

#### **PORTUGAL.**

The Portuguese "Diario do Governo" for the 13th January, contains a Royal Decree authorising the importation into Portugal of 70,000 metric tons of wheat for the manufacture of bread, alimentary pastes, cakes, and biscuits, from the 15th January to the 31st July, 1906. This amount is apportioned, in accordance with percentages fixed by the Decree, among the various firms or individuals manufacturing such products. The import duty on wheat imported under the terms of this Decree is fixed at 21 reis per kilog.

#### **PORTUGAL—MACAO.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Decree was published in the Portuguese "Diario do Governo," for the 19th January, exempting fish, salt, and pork imported into the Colony of Macao from import duty, and abolishing the salt and fish monopolies.

#### **Forthcoming Modifications of Import Duties on Fish, Swine, and Salt.**

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

In accordance with this Decree, salt will pay a landing duty of 2 reis per kilog.; while salt of inferior quality intended for salting fish for exportation will pay only a statistical duty of  $\frac{1}{2}$  real per kilog. Fish, fresh, dried, or salted, will pay a duty of 2 per cent. *ad valorem*. The duty on live swine is fixed at 50 reis per head.

The new duties come into force on the 1st July next.

#### ITALY.

A Decree has been issued by the Italian Minister of the Interior providing that, in view of the repeated attempts to introduce damaged or adulterated coffee, no cargo or parcel of foreign coffee shall be admitted into Italy until its genuineness and fitness for sale as laid down in the existing regulations has been established. Exception is made only in the case of coffee passing through Italy in transit to other countries under Customs transit regulations.

According to a recent "Bollettino" issued by the Italian Ministry of Finance *fruits preserved in wine* are assimilated for Customs purposes to fruits preserved in spirits, and will therefore pay duty under No. 303 (b) of the Italian Tariff, at the rate of 120 lire per 100 kilogs. (5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb.).

*Manufactures of tripoli stone mixed with asbestos* are assimilated to manufactures of cement, dutiable as "Earthenware" under No. 267 of the Tariff.

#### COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN ITALY AND JAPAN.

A circular recently issued to Italian Customs officials states that from the 1st January, 1906, full most-favoured-nation treatment was to be definitively accorded to Japanese merchandise imported into Italy, in accordance with the terms of the Italo-Japanese Treaty of the 1st December, 1894, and an Exchange of Notes between the two Governments, which took place on the 1st December last.

#### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

According to the Italian "Bollettino di Legislazione e Statistica Doganale e Commerciale" for October last, the Austro-Hungarian authorities have issued an Order providing that exotic *feculæ* such as tapioca, arrowroot, &c., included under No. 81 of the Tariff, when imported into Austria-Hungary for industrial purposes and not for food, may, at the request of the importer, be classified under No. 328 at the rate of 6 fl. per 100 kilogs. (6s. 1d. per cwt.), subject to denaturation under official supervision.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**ROUMANIA.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 221 of the "Journal" for the 1st February, relating to the application of the new Roumanian Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the circular there referred to. The circular states that declarations in respect of imported goods must be presented and registered at the Custom Houses at which the goods have arrived or been warehoused before 6 p.m. on the 28th February in order to entitle them to benefit by the rates of the existing tariff; and that declarations will be accepted only for goods actually stored in Customs, railway, shipping, or postal warehouses, or for goods in respect of which the loading manifest has been deposited and registered.

Goods for exportation will be subject to the existing export tariff if they are declared, and if the actual loading thereof on vessels or trucks has been begun, before 6 p.m. on the 28th February.

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Circular of the United States Treasury Department, suspending the prohibition against the importation into the United States of neat cattle under Section 25 of the Tariff Act of 1897, so far as regards Brahma or sacred cattle imported from parts of India producing such cattle.

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**CHILE.**

The Chilian "Diario Oficial" of 12th December contains a Decree providing that the existing Valuation Tariff for assessing duties on imports shall remain in force without alteration during the year 1906.

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**PERU-BOLIVIA.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of the Treaty of Commerce between Peru and Bolivia, which was signed at Lima on the 27th November, 1905.

**Treaty of Commerce between Peru and Bolivia.**

By this Treaty the two countries agree to accord to one another the treatment of the most-favoured-nation in all that concerns import and consumption duties. The transit of the natural and industrial products of each country is to be reciprocally free of transit duty in the other; this provision being applicable also to foreign products in transit by the routes of

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

Mollendo and Puro to La Paz, and from Mollendo to Pelechuco *viâ* Cojata, or *vice versâ*. Cattle in transit through either country to the other are not to pay a higher toll for passage than national cattle. Provision is also made for the free introduction of certain articles of food, and (within certain limits of weight) of raw materials, in the frontier traffic between the two countries. Special regulations are to be drawn up for the control of goods imported and exported by way of Mollendo.

The present Treaty is to come into force on the 1st July next, and to remain in force for five years, and thereafter until one year after denunciation by either contracting party.

#### BRAZIL.

**Brazilian Budget for 1906.**—*Continued from p. 279 of last week's "Journal."*

The following is a statement of the principal tariff alterations effected by the new Brazilian Budget Law (other than the increase in the proportion of import duties payable in gold, of which a notice appeared in last week's "Journal") :—

(1) The import duties on certain articles are modified as shown below :—

[Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs. av. ; milreis (1,000 reis) = 2s. 3d. (par value).]

Articles.	Former rate.	Present rate.
	Reis.	Reis.
Dried and salted meat ( <i>xarque</i> ) ... ..	Kilog. ... 150	Kilog. ... 180
Rice ... ..	" ... 120	" ... 160
Hay, lucern, oat straw and other fodder ...	" ... 30	" ... 50
Oxide of lead, compound or white siccative...	" ... 200	" ... 400
Juice of grapes not fermented ... ..	{ Not separately mentioned. }	{ " ... 450 }
Pine or fir : trunks ... ..	cub. metre 14,500	cub. metre 20,000
" boards, planks, joists ... ..	" 13,200	" 25,000
Common paper for packing, natural colour, rough on both sides ... ..	Kilog. ... 150	Kilog. ... 200
Paper painted or stamped, dyed or coloured, plain on one or both sides, figured or moroccoed, for binding, even though suitable for drawing or printing, for packing, <i>confetti</i> and other purposes, in sheets or rolls ... ..	" ... 400	" ... 500
Cast iron in ingots or puddled, for rolling, crude ... ..	" ... 10	" ... 20
Plates, plain or striated in the rolling—		
Of iron... ..	} 80* 100† 120‡	" ... 130
Of steel ... ..		" ... 150
Bars and rods and lengths for hoops for casks, pipes and bales, and in general rolled iron and steel of every kind—		
Iron ... ..		" ... 140
Steel... ..		" ... 160

\* Iron plates simply rolled, hoops for casks, &c. † Iron bars and rods, and rolled iron in general. ‡ Steel rods and bars.

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

#### BRAZIL—continued.

Articles.	Former rate.	Present rate.
Iron and steel wire, barbed, and fence staples	Kilog. ... Reis. 100	Kilog. ... Reis. 150
Stoves of cast or beaten iron, furnaces, accessories of the same, portable furnaces, square and round, common three-footed pots, and other similar articles ...	" ... 200	" ... 300
Manufactures of iron and steel not specially mentioned in the tariff—		
Of cast iron, plain... ..	" ... 200	" ... 300
Of cast iron, painted, &c.... ..	" ... 400	" ... 500
Automobiles (carts or vessels) for the transport of passengers or goods ...	—	7 % <i>ad val.</i>
Automobile trucks, put together or not, fore or hind wheels, complete, including the motor and accessories, but without the car body ...	—	5 % <i>ad val.</i>
Automobiles consuming alcohol, pure, carburetted, or denatured ...	—	5 % <i>ad val.</i>
Still, athanors, stoves, retorts, pans, boilers, saucepans, tea-kettles, chocolate pots, frying-pans, and other similar objects not specially mentioned—		
Plain—		
Large, for use in agriculture or manufactures ...	15 % <i>ad val.</i>	5 % <i>ad val.</i>
Small, for laboratories, chemical and pharmaceutical, and for private use	Kilog. ... 400	No change.
Tinned, painted, or enamelled ...	Same as for plain	Kilog. ... 600
Flat [or polishing] (‡) irons, of iron or steel, [of any kind, plain or painted] (‡) ...	" 400	" ... 500
Wood cut up into sticks for the manufacture of matches ...	" 80	" ... 1,300\$
Small boxes of pine wood destined exclusively to contain matches, finished or not ...	{ " 320 ¶ } " 400 ¶	{ " ... 1,300
Straw of rye, wheat, oats, and other straw for bottle envelopes, and various other packing purposes ...	Not specified ...	" ... 50

(2) Alcoholic beverages containing absinthe or other injurious substances are added to the list of articles the importation of which is prohibited.

(3) The consumption duty on foreign wines is fixed as follows:—

Containing up to 14 degrees of absolute alcohol—

Per litre ... ..	75 reis.
Per bottle ... ..	50 "
Per half-bottle ... ..	25 "

‡ Words in square brackets added. § In force from the 1st July, 1906, and to remain in force only so long as the States which export pine wood do not augment the existing duties on that material. Importers of wood cut up for matches will not be permitted to clear a larger quantity than that imported last year.  
¶ Unfinished. ¶ Finished.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*


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**BRAZIL**—*continued.*

Containing from 14 to 24 degrees of absolute alcohol—

Per litre     ...     ...     ...     ... 150 reis.

Per bottle    ...     ...     ...     ... 100 „

Per half bottle     ...     ...     ... 50 „

Containing more than 24 degrees of absolute alcohol,  
champagne and other sparkling wines—

Per litre     ...     ...     ...     ... 300 reis.

Per bottle    ...     ...     ...     ... 200 „

Per half bottle     ...     ...     ... 100 „

(4) A consumption duty of 200 reis per box of one dozen charges (levied by means of stamps) is imposed on charges (“sparklets,” &c.) containing carbonic acid, intended for the manufacture of artificial aerated waters.

(5) The Government is authorised (as in the Budget for 1904, but not in that for 1905) to introduce a differential tariff in favour of countries which make concessions to Brazilian products. By the present Budget these reductions are restricted to the following articles:—Typewriters, refrigerators, pianos, scales, and windmills.

(6) The Government is authorised to reduce the import duty on sugar, except that which is imported from countries which give bounties on production or exportation.

(7) The Government may reform the regulations relative to the tax on consular invoices with a view to prevent a single invoice from being utilised to cover goods belonging to different importers, and to ensure the declaration of the true value of goods; and may enforce such regulations by means of fines.

(8) The 2 per cent. (gold) port tax, levied at Rio Grande do Sul and Rio de Janeiro, and the tax of from 1 to 5 reis per kilog. on merchandise loaded or discharged at certain ports, are maintained in force; also the 2 per cent. (gold) tax on cereals, and the surtax of 10 per cent. (paper) levied on the registration charges (*expediente*) imposed on duty-free goods.

(9) The following are included among the chemical products which may be imported free of duty under certain conditions:—Sulphuric and tartaric acids, tannin, bisulphite of potassium, and selected ferments, when imported by agricultural societies or syndicates, or by individual farmers.

(*To be continued.*)

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## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### BRAZIL (STATE OF RIO GRANDE).

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Decree of the President of the State of Rio Grande imposing special protective import duties on certain articles imported into that State. These duties, which are additional to, and independent of, the duties levied by the Federal Government, are as follows:—

2 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Stearine candles.

8 per cent. *ad valorem*:—

Alcohol, aniseed, alfafa (lucerne),\* biscuits, ships' biscuits, beef (tinned), dried beef (*xarque*), beans,\* birdseed, bamboos, brooms, brushes, cigars, clogs, candles (tallow),\* garlic, grease, hair, yerba maté, hams, lard, leather, liqueurs, lentils, macaroni and similar pastes, maize,\* molasses, tapioca, flour, onions, oil (neats' foot), pea nuts, potatoes,\* preserved fruits (dried or in syrup), peas, planks (wood), paper (wrapping and cardboard), rice,\* sheepskins, starch,\* stones, soap,\* sausages, tobacco, tongues, tallow, tomatoes, wood posts.

Imported wheat flour is not subject to the tax.

The new duties came into force on the 1st January.

### ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of an Argentine law, dated the 9th December, 1905, respecting the dues leviable for warehousing and handling goods in Argentine Custom houses and Customs warehouses.

**Surcharges on  
Goods Ware-  
housed with the  
Customs for more  
than Three  
Months.**

The provisions of this Law are, in most particulars, the same as those of the former Law of January 1st, 1900. In accordance with the present Law, however, merchandise remaining in Customs warehouses more than three months will be subject to a surcharge of 25 per cent. on the original rate of the dues. This surcharge will be increased to 50 per cent. after six months, and to 100 per cent. after one year. In the case of merchandise in transit to other Argentine Custom houses or to foreign countries, no charge for warehousing is made for the first three months; after that date the ordinary rates will be charged for the next three months. In the case of merchandise dutiable by volume, merchants must indicate in the manifest the dimensions of the articles sought to be cleared.

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\* NOTE.—The articles marked \* are exempt from the duty when imported through Custom-houses other than Porto Alegre, Rio Grande, and Pelotas.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ARGENTINE REPUBLIC**—*continued.*

**Customs Law for 1906.** (*Continued from page 223 of the "Board of Trade Journal," for the 1st February.*)

**Article 3.**—The under-mentioned articles shall pay the specific duties stated:—

**Articles of Food.**

Articles.	Rate of Duty per kilog.	Articles.	Rate of Duty per kilog.
	Pesos.		Pesos.
Vegetable oils in general ...	0·10	Rye, of all kinds ...	0·0
Linseed oil, crude or boiled ...	0·10	Chocolate, in paste ...	0·30
Cocoanut or palm oil ...	0·03	"    in powder ...	0·35
Olives, preserved in oil, stuffed or not, including the weight of the package ...	0·08	Peas, in the pod ...	0·01
Olives, preserved in brine ...	0·05	"    shelled ...	0·02
"    pressed or not ...	0·03	Cloves ...	0·06
"Aji" (dwarf pepper), raw ...	0·05	Prunes ...	0·08
Garlic, of all kinds ...	0·01	Chilian cocoanuts ...	0·03
Capers, in glass jars ...	0·08	Cumin seeds ...	0·05
"    in wooden barrels ...	0·06	Comfits, bon-bons and pastiles loose ...	0·25
Almonds, shelled ...	0·10	Vegetables, preserved in jars, tins, or bottles ...	0·12
"    not shelled ...	0·05	Preserved fish, shell-fish, and mushrooms of all kinds, except sardines ...	0·20
Starch, of all kinds ...	0·08	Meat preserves, with or without truffles, except salted meat... ..	0·20
Canary seed ...	0·01	Dates, in packages up to 2 kilogs. ...	0·10
Lupines, in the grain ...	0·01	Dates, in larger packages ...	0·06
"    peeled ...	0·02	Peaches, dried and stoned ...	0·05
Aniseed, in the grain ...	0·06	Sweetmeats and nougat ...	0·25
Vetches, ...	0·01	Sausages of meat, including German sausages ...	0·30
Herrings, smoked, in barrels ...	0·05	Pickles, in bottles ...	0·10
"    in boxes ...	0·08	"    in other receptacles ...	0·07
Rice ...	0·02	Spices, of all kinds, ground ...	0·12
"    in the husk ...	0·00½	Farina ...	0·00½
Hazel-nuts, unshelled ...	0·03	Vermicelli ...	0·04
"    shelled ...	0·05	Fruits, preserved in their own juice, in compote, or in syrup ...	0·25
Oats, in the grain ...	0·01½	Fruits in their natural state or preserved in water or spirit ...	0·15
Sugar, refined, or of 96 or more degrees of polarisation ...	0·09	Biscuits ( <i>galleta</i> ), common ...	0·02
Sugar, not refined, or of less than 96° of polarisation ...	0·07	Chick-peas (Spanish peas) ...	0·04
Cod, and other similar fish ...	0·04	Beans, dried ...	0·01
"    "    cut up ...	0·06	Flour, edible, of all kinds, in packets or tins, except flour of wheat or maize ...	0·05
Biscuits ( <i>biscochos</i> and <i>galletitas</i> ) ...	0·15	Flour, edible, in boxes, bags, or any other receptacles ...	0·04
Oat-cocoa and the like... ..	0·25	Figs, dried, in packages up to 2 kilogs. in weight ...	0·05
Coffee, in the berry ...	0·03	Figs, dried, in larger packages ...	0·03
"    ground ...	0·06	Eggs of all kinds ...	0·02
Chicory, in packets ...	0·03	Hams ...	0·25
"    loose ...	0·02½	Condensed milk ...	0·07
Coffee substitute made of barley or malt ...	0·08	Codfish tongues... ..	0·10
Shrimps, dried ...	0·12½	Lentils ...	0·01
Cinnamon, unground ...	0·05		
Meat, salted, in casks ...	0·02½		
Chestnuts, shelled ...	0·02½		
"    not shelled ...	0·00½		
Caviar ...	0·40		
Barley, pearled ...	0·02½		
"    not pearled ...	0·00¼		
Onions, of all kinds ...	0·01		

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—continued.

#### Articles of Food—continued.

Articles.	Rate of Duty per kilog.	Articles.	Rate of Duty per kilog.
	Pesos.		Pesos.
Earthnuts ("Mani") ... ..	0·01½	Red pepper ( <i>pimenton</i> ) ...	0·03
Butter ... ..	0·10	Pepper ( <i>pimientos</i> ) in the	
Lard ... ..	0·08	natural state ... ..	0·04
Apples, pears, or cherries, dried, including the weight of the		Pine seeds ... ..	0·06
receptacle ... ..	0·05	Pepper ( <i>pimienta</i> ), whole ...	0·04
Ginger ... ..	0·50	Pistachio nuts ... ..	0·10
"Mazacote" (a preserve made		Poroto peas ... ..	0·01½
of brown sugar) ... ..	0·02	Cheese of all kinds ... ..	0·20
Honey of all sorts ... ..	0·03	Salt, common ... ..	0·20*
Mustard, English or French ...	0·10	" fine, in kegs or bags ...	0·01
Walnuts ... ..	0·03	" in flasks ... ..	0·02
Millet ... ..	0·03	English sauce ... ..	0·15
Oysters ... ..	0·04	Sardines in oil or sauce ...	0·05
Raisins, in packages weighing		Semolina ... ..	0·02
up to 2 kilogs ... ..	0·15	Soups, prepared ... ..	0·10
Raisins, in larger packages ...	0·10	Tea of all kinds... ..	0·20
Currants ... ..	0·05	"Ticholos" ... ..	0·15
Anchovy paste ... ..	0·30	Bacon ... ..	0·20
Tomato paste ... ..	0·05	Truffles, in natural state ...	0·75
Stock-fish in bundles ... ..	0·02	Yerba, prepared, of all kinds...	0·04
Fish, in brine or pressed ...	0·04	Yerba, not prepared ... ..	0·01½

\* Duty per hectolitre.

#### Beverages.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.	Articles.	Rate of Duty.
	Pesos.		Pesos.
Brandy, not exceeding 79°, in casks or demijohns ... <i>litre</i>	0·06	Byrrh and quinine wines, in casks or demijohns ... <i>litre</i>	0·30
Brandy, not exceeding 79°, in bottles of more than half a litre and up to 1 litre <i>bottle</i>	0·25	" in bottles ... <i>bottle</i>	0·25
Absinthe, not exceeding 68°, in casks or demijohns ... <i>litre</i>	0·29	Bitters, Angostura, not exceeding 68°, in bottles of more than half and up to 1 litre <i>bottle</i>	0·54
Anis, arrack, cognac, kirsch, rum and other similar spirits, not exceeding 50°, in casks or demijohns ... .. <i>litre</i>	0·28	Bitters, Angostura, in half- bottles... .. <i>bottle</i>	0·27
Absinthe, not exceeding 68°, in bottles holding more than half a litre and up to 1 litre <i>bottle</i>	0·34	" of other kinds, in bottles <i>bottle</i>	0·27
Anis, arrack, cognac, rum and other similar spirits, not ex- ceeding 50°, in bottles hold- ing more than half a litre and up to 1 litre ... .. <i>bottle</i>	0·33	" in casks or demijohns, up to 68° ... .. <i>litre</i>	0·29
		Cane spirits, in bottles <i>bottle</i>	0·25
		" in casks or demijohns <i>litre</i>	0·20
		Beer or ale, in casks ... <i>litre</i>	0·07
		" in bottles ... <i>bottle</i>	0·10
		Chacoli, in bottles ... <i>bottle</i>	0·08
		" in casks ... <i>litre</i>	0·04

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—continued.****Beverages—continued.**

Articles.	Rate of Duty.	Articles.	Rate of Duty.
	Pesos.		Pcsos.
Chicha (pineapple wine), in bottles... .. <i>bottle</i>	0.10	Wines: port, sherry, Madeira, Rhine wine, Château Margaux, Lafitte, Château Yquem, Burgundy, and other fine wines in casks or demijohns <i>litre</i>	0.25
Chicha, (pineapple wine), in casks ... .. <i>litre</i>	0.08	Wines: Carlon, Priorato, Seco, common Burdeos, Barbera, common Moselle, and other common wines, in casks or demijohns, *with an alcoholic strength of not more than 15°, and not showing more than 3½ per cent. of dry residue, excluding the sugar ... <i>litre</i>	0.03
Cider, in casks ... .. <i>litre</i>	0.10	Muscat, Marsala, Nebiolo, Barolo, Sauterne, Moselle, and sweet and dessert and other ordinary wines ... .. <i>litre</i>	0.12
„ in bottles... .. <i>bottle</i>	0.15	Vinegar, in casks or demijohns <i>litre</i>	0.01½
Geneva, “Old Tom,” or schnapps not exceeding 50°, in bottles <i>bottle</i>	0.33	„ in bottles ... <i>bottle</i>	0.02
Geneva and schnapps, in casks or demijohns, not exceeding 50° ... .. <i>litre</i>	0.23	Vermouth, in casks or demijohns <i>litre</i>	0.15
Ginger ale ... .. <i>doz. bottles</i>	0.50	„ in bottles ... <i>bottle</i>	0.16
Grapa, in bottles ... .. <i>bottle</i>	0.25	Must, alcoholized, or concentrated; and “mistelas” <i>litre</i>	1.00
„ in casks or demijohns <i>litre</i>	0.20	Whisky not exceeding 50°, in casks or demijohns ... <i>litre</i>	0.30
Syrups, in bottles ... .. <i>bottle</i>	0.15	Whisky not exceeding 50° in bottle ... .. <i>bottle</i>	0.30
Liqueurs, in bottles, not exceeding 50° ... .. <i>bottle</i>	0.33		
Liqueurs, in casks or demijohns, not exceeding 50° ... .. <i>litre</i>	0.29		
Punch, in bottles ... .. <i>bottle</i>	0.10		
“Refrescos” with soda, in bottles... .. <i>doz. bottles</i>	0.50		
Soda water ... .. „	0.40		
Wines, of all kinds, in bottles <i>bottle</i>	0.25		

\* NOTE—When wines and other beverages show a greater alcoholic strength than that established above, they will pay an additional duty of 1 centavo per litre for each degree and fraction thereof in excess, and when the dry residue exceeds the specified limit, the wine will pay 1 centavo per litre for every 5 grms. or fraction thereof in excess.

(To be continued.)

**PARAGUAY.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Asuncion, stating that the Paraguayan Government have issued orders to their Consular Officers directing that through bills of lading for goods consigned to Paraguay *viâ* Monte Video or Buenos Ayres are to be endorsed only by the Paraguayan Consul at the port of shipment of the goods. A Consular *visa* only is required at Monte Video or Buenos Ayres, and this will not entail the payment of any further fee at those ports.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

According to a communication received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their Correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew), the railway connecting Bethlehem and Kroonstad, in the Orange River Colony, will be completed before the end of May, and it is expected that the line which is being constructed between Bethlehem and Modderpoort will be open for traffic in December.

These lines complete the connection between the port of Durban and some of the richest districts in the Orange River Colony, and the trade, or a large portion of it, that was in former times done between that Colony and Natal will, it is hoped, be resumed.

### GRENADA.

On p. 316 will be found a notice respecting new Customs regulations in Grenada, prescribing that all bills of entry, shipping bills and outward manifests shall be prepared in accordance with the official Import List of the Colony.

### RUSSIA.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that, according to the Official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of 6th/19th January, the railway from Siberia *via* the Samara-Zlatoust line is completely blocked with returning troops, and that in consequence "an enormous amount" of butter, game and grain, destined for export abroad, is thereby accumulated on the Siberian lines. The Ministry of Ways has, therefore, made arrangements that goods trains should run on the Vologda-Viatka Line, now nearing completion, with the help of which Siberian produce could be conveyed to St. Petersburg and Reval, *via* the Perm-Viatka-Vologda Railway.

### SWEDEN.

A telegram has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Swedish Consular Officers Abroad. Minister at Stockholm (Sir J. Rennell Rodd, G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G.), stating that on the dissolution of the union between Sweden and Norway all Consuls in office, unless they resigned, remained Consuls for Sweden only. It has not been considered necessary to apply for new Exequaturs: provisional authorisation has, however, been given in a few special cases to Swedish Consuls

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*Shipping and Transport.*

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to continue to act for Norway also. Similar authorisation has sometimes been given to Norwegian Consuls to act for Sweden.

In the British Empire, the Norwegian Consul at Cardiff is thus empowered to act for Sweden, and the Swedish Consuls at Liverpool and Quebec are authorised to look after Norwegian interests.

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**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 5th February contains a Decree appointing a Commission to report on the means of communication between Spain and the Spanish possessions in North Africa and on the Gulf of Guinea, with a view to deciding on the allotment of subsidies for expediting the mail services, fostering the direct transport of Spanish merchandise in national ships, establishing better inter-communication between land and sea transport services, and determining the shipping and fishing enterprises most deserving of State subsidies.

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**SPAIN-CANARY ISLANDS.**

With reference to the restriction of the inter-insular trade of the Canary Islands to Spanish vessels (see p. 456 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th December, 1904), information has been received, through the Foreign Office, that the operation of the Decree has been still further postponed for six months from 4th January last.

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**

H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. B. Spence) reports, on the authority of the "Neue Freie Presse," that the Austrian-Lloyd Steamship Company, in conjunction with the Adria Steamship Company, with which it now maintains a joint service of steamships from Trieste and Fiume to Brazil and La Plata, will establish a monthly service to the port of Paranagua, in the State of Parana, Southern Brazil, where there is a large colony of Austro-Hungarian subjects (chiefly emigrants from the south of the Empire).

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**BRAZIL.**

The Brazilian "Diario Oficial" of 13th January contains a revised scale of brokerage rates which may be legally charged by produce and ship brokers at Rio de Janeiro.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### TRINIDAD.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Collector of Customs at Port of Spain copy of a report by the Government Inspector of Mines on the Cunapo (Trinidad) Coal Field. This report may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### ITALY.

H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey) reports that the "Industria" of that city publishes the following information regarding the importation of coal into Italy, as an indication of the development of Italian manufacturing industries:—

"It appears from the Customs Returns, that during the first 11 months of 1905, Italy imported 6,019,500 tons of coal, showing an increase of 586,600 tons, as compared with the corresponding period of 1904. At the same time, it should be noted, that in 1904 there was an increase of 275,500 tons over 1903; that 1903 exceeded 1902 by 172,000 tons, and the imports in 1902 were greater than those in 1901 by 560,000 tons. In fact, the consumption of coal in Italy during the last five years has augmented by 1,695,000 tons, or 38 per cent."

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### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The following memorandum on the subject of a proposed new steel works in the State of Indiana has been received from the British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell):—

"The 'New York Tribune' is authority for stating that a large new steel plant is about to be erected in Indiana State by the Illinois Steel Company, one of the subsidiary companies of the United States Steel Corporation.

"There will be 27 blast-furnaces and 50 open-hearth furnaces, making it, the 'Tribune' says, the largest steel plant in the world. The new plant will cost ultimately from 20,000,000 dols. to 30,000,000 dols., and will require ten years in building.

"A model town will be built near Buffington, Ind., and will be called Corey, after the president of the parent firm.

"The town will be built on the lines of the most advanced and scientific ideas of municipal reform. It will contain, beside workmen's dwellings, public baths, laundries, kitchens, and other municipal enterprises. There will be a theatre, and a large assembly hall for meetings of every description."

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*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

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**PERU.**

The "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York) of 27th January, contains the following particulars of the development of the oil-fields of Northern Peru, supplied by Mr. V. F. Marsters, Chief of the Geological Commission at Lima:—

"Of late years there has been an increasing interest in the development of the oil-fields of Northern Peru. For many years it has been known that lubricating and fuel oils existed at several points in the Provinces of Paita and Tumbes. Some of these have been developed in a commercial way within the last 10 or 15 years.

"The oldest fields now supplying oil to the Peruvian markets are those situated at Nigritos and Zorritos. At Lobitos, however, about 20 miles north of Nigritos, and on the coast, is a new field recently developed by the Peruvian Corporation. In this locality exploratory work has been carried on for nearly three years, on a somewhat modest scale. The first work in the field was attended with various difficulties, which seriously hampered and interfered with rapid exploration. At the present time 17 wells have been sunk, and eight of them are producing oil. The most productive ones have been bored during the last ten months.

"The oil bearing sand is tapped at a depth of about 1,000 feet. Above the sands the entire series of deposits is made up of very fine clays. In such of the wells as have penetrated the oil sand, the fine clay again appears. Only a few feet has been reached below the oil horizon. From the structure of other fields it would seem quite probable that other oil sands may be found at a greater depth. No effort has been made, however, to demonstrate this suggestion. There are 1,000 tons of tankage, all of which is filled with oil. The product already on hand is soon to be placed upon the Peruvian markets. Sufficient work has been done and results obtained to place this field on the list of producers in Peru."

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**YARNS AND TEXTILES.****UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to the undermentioned countries during the twelve months ended December, 1904 and 1905, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

*Yarns and Textiles.*

To	Twelve months ended December.	
	1904.	1905.
<b>Coloured and uncoloured cloths—</b>	<b>Yards.</b>	<b>Yards.</b>
United Kingdom ... ..	2,473,020	3,191,243
France ... ..	—	—
Germany ... ..	108,240	277,127
Other Europe ... ..	1,473,030	1,971,436
British North America ... ..	8,810,310	9,835,433
Central America and British Honduras ... ..	24,368,148	28,217,004
Mexico ... ..	2,955,564	3,512,894
Cuba ... ..	12,419,293	24,247,573
Other West Indies and Bermuda ... ..	21,255,483	30,719,800
Argentina ... ..	2,480,828	3,719,294
Brazil ... ..	8,462,661	9,982,738
Chile ... ..	12,387,169	14,726,828
Colombia ... ..	17,016,999	10,092,071
Venezuela ... ..	6,720,078	7,284,042
Other South America ... ..	6,377,306	8,187,197
Chinese Empire ... ..	248,671,197	562,732,721
British East Indies ... ..	4,861,578	10,907,297
Hong-Kong ... ..	346,235	455,675
Japan ... ..	7,842,365	10,441,564
British Australasia ... ..	5,429,222	7,861,169
Philippine Islands ... ..	10,212,366	9,962,531
Other Asia and Oceania ... ..	23,625,325	24,154,197
British Africa ... ..	6,034,836	7,165,250
All other Africa ... ..	658,433	613,935
Total quantity ... .. Yards	434,989,686	790,259,024
Total value ... .. Dols.	25,568,009	47,652,434
<b>Other cotton goods—</b>	<b>Dollars.</b>	<b>Dollars.</b>
United Kingdom ... ..	1,207,769	1,145,730
Belgium ... ..	93,207	214,204
France ... ..	11,072	39,532
Germany ... ..	817,259	671,760
Netherlands ... ..	35,753	40,382
Other Europe ... ..	89,819	88,002
British North America ... ..	2,396,966	2,458,667
Central America and British Honduras ... ..	621,597	690,587
Mexico ... ..	534,826	623,930
Cuba ... ..	355,893	433,032
Other West Indies and Bermuda ... ..	239,724	245,959
Argentina ... ..	222,089	321,745
Brazil ... ..	94,813	65,323
Chile ... ..	21,482	21,371
Colombia ... ..	108,737	47,045
Venezuela ... ..	35,704	28,941
Other South America ... ..	49,173	58,161
Chinese Empire ... ..	81,973	334,899
British East Indies ... ..	11,362	9,136
Hong-Kong ... ..	60,693	109,594
British Australasia ... ..	495,613	515,492
Philippine Islands ... ..	73,270	89,647
Other Asia and Oceania ... ..	215,971	258,622
British Africa ... ..	154,667	276,035
All other Africa ... ..	9,560	14,851
Other countries ... ..	3,616	5,919
Total value ... .. Dols.	8,042,608	8,808,566
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported ... .. Dols.	33,610,617	56,461,000

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 10th February, 1906, were as follows:—

#### Corn Prices.

Wheat	...	...	...	...	28s. 10d.
Barley	...	...	...	...	25s. 3d.
Oats	...	...	...	...	18s. 10d.

For further particulars see p. 337.

A statement is published on p. 338, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 10th February, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

#### Imports of Agricultural Produce.

### SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.

A sample of evaporated bananas, packed in a 5-lb. wooden box, has been received from the Seychelles Islands. The bananas are packed whole, and are of large size. It is stated that the preparation of these bananas is intended to be started as an industry in the Colony.

The sample may be seen on application at the Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 8th February, 1906, was 135,285 (including 105 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the six weeks ended the 8th February was 799,593 (including 264 bales British West Indian and 80 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 8th February, 1906, 13,298 bales, and for the six weeks, 58,778.

For further details see p. 337.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The following figures showing the value of the foreign trade of the Presidency of Madras, exclusive of Government stores and treasure, during the year 1904-05, with comparative figures for the preceding year, are extracted from the Annual Volume of the Seaborne Trade of the Presidency, recently published at Madras:—

#### Foreign Trade of Madras.

*Miscellaneous.***BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*

—					1903-4.	1904-5.
					Rs.	Rs.
Imports of merchandise	...	...	...	...	7,51,47,845	8,45,56,016
Exports of merchandise—						
Indian	...	...	...	...	15,00,73,900	14,66,42,524
Foreign	...	...	...	...	8,57,861	11,94,360
Total exports	...	...	...	...	15,09,31,761	14,78,36,884

The following particulars of the foreign sea-borne trade of Burma (exclusive of Government transactions and specie) are taken from the report on the Foreign Sea-borne Trade of Burma. Maritime Trade of Burma for the year 1904-5 :—

—					1903-4.	1904-5.
					Rs.	Rs.
Imports	...	...	...	...	8,26,25,707	8,90,93,715
Exports (Indian merchandise)	...	...	...	...	15,82,09,018	16,24,81,207

**ADEN.**

The following table, showing the value of the total imports and exports of the sea-borne foreign and Indian trade of Aden during the year ended 31st March, 1905, as compared with the preceding year, is taken from the annual report on the trade and navigation of Aden :—

—					Year ended 31st March.	
					1904.	1905.
<b>Imports.</b>					Rs.	Rs.
Merchandise	...	...	...	...	4,67,14,785	4,17,94,120
Treasure	...	...	...	...	79,62,380	41,29,587
Total imports	...	...	...	Rs.	5,46,77,165	4,59,23,707
<b>Exports.</b>						
Merchandise	...	...	...	...	3,74,96,390	3,63,29,455
Treasure	...	...	...	...	65,28,690	47,26,623
Total exports	...	...	...	Rs.	4,40,25,080	4,10,56,078

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*Miscellaneous.*

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The value of articles of merchandise imported from the interior of Arabia by land into Aden during the year ended 31st March last amounted to Rs. 29,71,897, as compared with Rs. 31,87,070 during the year ended 31st March, 1904, and the value of the merchandise that passed into Arabia per inland communication from Aden during the same periods amounted to Rs. 15,07,829 and Rs. 11,88,859 respectively. The value of the treasure that passed from Arabia into Aden in 1904-5 amounted to Rs. 1,44,599, as compared with Rs. 1,46,982 in 1903-4, while the treasure that passed into Arabia from Aden amounted to Rs. 2,22,518, as compared with Rs. 1,28,522.

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**GERMAN AFRICA.**

The "Papier Zeitung" (Berlin), referring to the recent decision of the Industrial Committee of the German Colonial Association to institute enquiries into the Halfa (Esparto) grass industry of Algeria, reports that Professor Passarge, of Breslau, has been entrusted with this commission, which includes the collection of large quantities of seed for subsequent sowing in German East Africa. The district which it is expected to utilise for this cultivation comprises the saline plains south of Mt. Kilimandjaro, and the results obtained there will have an important bearing on the contemplated extension to Lake Victoria of the Usambara railway.

According to the "Hamburgische Börsen-Halle," the German Colonial Office are taking steps, at the instance of a number of influential tanners, to encourage in the German Colonies the production of tanning materials. The experimental cultivation of Australian and South American plants of this nature has already been taken in hand. Good results have been obtained from the experimental station at Victoria—Cameroon, mangrove bark yielding 27 per cent. of tanning material having been received thence in Germany.

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**FRANCE—SENEGAL.**

H.M. Consul-General at Dakar (Capt. C. F. Cromie, C.M.G.), reports that the total export of gum from Senegal in 1904, the last year for which statistics have appeared, was 2,370,031 kilos. (about 2,328 tons), valued at 44,835*l*. This was divided as follows:—hard gum, 1,842,610 kilos. from the region north of the River Senegal, and 484,095

*Miscellaneous.*

kilos. from the Soudan and Senegal proper; friable gum, 37,396 kilos. from all parts; dust and damaged gum, 5,930 kilos. from all parts.

An export duty of 1 franc 50 centimes per kilo. was formerly levied, but was removed in May, 1905, so that there are now no royalties or export duties on gum.

At least three-fourths of the gum is brought by caravans to the various posts on the River Senegal from which they are taken to St. Louis by river transport of various kinds, and thence embarked for Europe.

Capt. Cromie adds that since the re-opening of the Egyptian Soudan, the Senegal gum trade has been dwindling away, and is now looked upon as of quite secondary importance.

**PORTUGUESE INDIA.**

The following figures, showing the value of the foreign sea-borne trade of the Portuguese Possessions in India in 1903-04, are extracted from an official report recently issued by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence in India:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1902-3 ... ..	2,15,718	1,58,147
1903-4 ... ..	1,44,216	2,42,510

Practically the whole of the foreign sea-borne import trade was with the mother country, whilst the exports to foreign countries went mainly to the Portuguese Possessions in Africa.

**SPAIN.**

The "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Barcelona states that the carbide of calcium industry has developed greatly in Spain of recent years. Hardly any was produced in the country four years ago; but the annual production in the province of Barcelona, where there are five carbide of calcium factories, now amounts to 8,000 tons. There is some talk of establishing new factories with a view of competing with Switzerland and Italy in the export of this substance.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

**Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 6 Weeks ended 8th February, 1906 :—**

	Week ended 8th Feb., 1906.	6 Weeks ended 8th Feb., 1906.	Week ended 8th Feb., 1906.	6 Weeks ended 8th Feb., 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	99,286	616,127	4,804	27,163
Brazilian ... ..	10,521	56,410	1,080	1,480
East Indian ... ..	6,409	21,644	910	5,930
Egyptian ... ..	16,646	96,360	6,488	23,417
Miscellaneous ... ..	2,423*	9,052†	16	788
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>135,285</b>	<b>799,593</b>	<b>13,298</b>	<b>58,778</b>

\* Including 105 bales British West Indian.

† „ 264 „ „ and 80 bales British West African.

### Corn Prices.

**Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 10th February, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.**

		Average Price.					
		Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
<b>Week ended 10th February, 1906</b>	... ..	28	10	25	3	18	10
<b>Corresponding week in—</b>							
1899 ... ..	...	26	0	26	10	16	11
1900 ... ..	...	26	1	24	11	16	8
1901 ... ..	...	26	4	25	4	17	7
1902 ... ..	...	26	11	27	5	20	3
1903 ... ..	...	25	6	23	7	17	1
1904 ... ..	...	26	8	22	2	15	9
1905 ... ..	...	30	7	25	2	16	8

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

# Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 10th February, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 10th Feb., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	11,929	9,679
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	2,455	6,225
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	516	139
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	113,475	54,652
Mutton ... ..	"	62,413	43,308
Pork ... ..	"	12,778	15,917
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	96,792	121,835
Beef ... ..	"	5,045	3,275
Hams ... ..	"	25,746	25,282
Pork ... ..	"	3,291	5,524
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	14,584	9,602
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	11,441	14,635
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	71,720	99,903
Margarine ... ..	"	22,472	21,187
Cheese ... ..	"	12,611	30,051
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	—	—
" cream ... ..	"	71	143
" condensed ... ..	"	18,103	19,560
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	27	17
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hndr.	296,281	200,992
Poultry ... ..	Value £	42,823	22,647
Game ... ..	"	1,481	774
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	12,231	4,068
Lard ... ..	"	41,447	34,541
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	788,500	1,704,400
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	282,800	244,500
Barley ... ..	"	568,100	348,300
Oats ... ..	"	173,600	95,500
Peas ... ..	"	24,650	58,940
Beans ... ..	"	11,650	33,060
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	1,215,800	1,077,800
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	39,248	69,284
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	78	13
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	91,183	62,113
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	169	276
Lemons ... ..	"	21,153	21,327
Oranges ... ..	"	192,503	180,257
Pears ... ..	"	191	314
Plums ... ..	"	208	40
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	3,415	2,519
Hay... ..	Tons.	2,468	1,578
Straw ... ..	"	3,208	2,899
Moss Litter ... ..	"	1,895	1,423
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	12,640	2,789
Locust Beans ... ..	"	9,340	36,996
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	177,269	108,060
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	13,073	37,810
Tomatoes ... ..	"	9,719	13,311
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	10,692	8,826
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>			
Preserved by canning... ..	Cwts.	1,382	5,372
	"	3,980	6,722

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 9*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 7*d.* for the first and 4*s.* 3*d.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the January issue:—State of the Labour Market in December; Employment in 1905; Changes in Wages and Hours in 1905; Relief of the Unemployed; Co-operation in 1904; and Wages and Hours of Labour in Hungary.

### LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1906, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	<b>EUROPE—</b>			<b>Netherlands and Colonies:</b>	
	<b>Denmark:</b>		3527	Netherlands Finances	
3525	Denmark (Supplementary) ... .. 1904	1 <i>d.</i>		1904-5 to 1905-6	1½ <i>d.</i>
			3524	Netherlands Indies	
				Finances ... .. 1905-6	1 <i>d.</i>
	<b>German Empire:</b>			<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>	
3526	Bavaria... .. 1904 and		3521	<b>Brazil:</b>	
	part of 1905	1 <i>d.</i>		Santos ... .. 1902-4	2 <i>d.</i>
3523	German Trade with India... ..	1 <i>d.</i>	3522	<b>WEST INDIES—</b>	
				Cuba (Supplementary) 1904	2 <i>d.</i>

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*February, 1906.*

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes:—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

February 22, 1906.

[No. 482

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 388.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Evaporated bananas from the Seychelles Islands ... ..	15th Feb., 1906	333
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe- { Tientsin	14th Dec., 1905	509
tition with British in ... { Shanghai	5th Oct., 1905	10
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 389.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The Board of Directors of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for (1) paint, (2) steel material, as per specifications, which may be seen at the offices of the Company, 46, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W. The charge for each specification is one guinea, which will not be returned. Tenders must be sent in addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Paints," or as the case may be, not later than noon on Tuesday, the 27th February, 1906. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

### CANADA.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—Enquiry has been made by a North of England firm for exporters of Canadian oak, cut lengths: 12 in. by  $3\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in.; 12 in. by 2 in. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in.; 12 in. by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  in.

A London produce merchant is seeking the representation of good Canadian houses exporting cheese, butter and canned goods.

A London importer of canned and bottled goods of every description has requested to be placed in communication with a reliable firm of packers in Canada.

Enquiry is made by a gentleman who is proceeding to Canada to take up his residence there, for particulars of English firms who desire to appoint an agent for the sale of their goods.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm wish to secure the agency of a Canadian shipper of bacon, eggs and butter.

A London firm wish to be placed in communication with Canadian manufacturers of pick, shovel and hammer handles, in a position to ship supplies direct to South Africa.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—The Canadian proprietors of a new patented code for cabling and telegraphing wish to get into communication with a reliable United Kingdom firm prepared to undertake the introduction of their code.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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A Canadian company manufacturing typewriter ribbons, paper, and other supplies ask to be placed in communication with United Kingdom dealers in these goods.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**CAPE COLONY.**

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 26th January announces that tenders are invited for the supply of the following oils required for the service of the Railway Department during the year 1906:—140,000 gallons of castor oil, 6,000 gallons of lard oil, 278,000 gallons of paraffin oil.

Sealed tenders addressed to the Chairman of the Tender Board, Control and Audit Office, Parliament Street, Cape Town, marked outside "Tender for Oil," will be received up to noon on Tuesday, 13th March.

A copy of each of the specifications, forwarded by Mr. E. J. Cattell, Board of Trade Correspondent at Cape Town, may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The same issue of the "Gazette" notifies that tenders will be received until the 20th April next at the office of the Controller and Auditor-General, Cape Town, for the supply for three years of lime juice and disinfectants as specified in a schedule published in the "Gazette."

The "Gazette" further invites tenders, to be received at the same office until the 18th April, for the supply, during the year ending 30th June, 1907, to the Breakwater and other convict stations, of provisions as specified in a schedule published in the "Gazette."

The above mentioned "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**EGYPT.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from Lieut.-Col. Western, R.E., London Agent for the Egyptian War Office, a notification to the effect that tenders will be received up to the 5th March, for the supply to the Sudan Government, for the use of the Khartoum Light Railway, of steel rails, steel sleepers, clips and bolts, fishplates, switch points, locomotives, rolling stock, and turntable.

### *Openings for British Trade.*

Copies of the specifications may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained from Lieut.-Col. J. H. Western, R.E., Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

#### **SWEDEN.**

H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor) reports that tenders are invited by the Board of Directors of Waterworks and Lighting, on behalf of the Orebro Gas Works, for the supply of about 2,000 tons of first class Old Pelton Main or Wearmouth gas coal—one-third to be delivered in each of the months of June, August and September of the present year. Prices are to be quoted per English ton c.i.f. Stockholm; guarantee of satisfactory fulfilment of the contract will be required, and also original colliery certificate. Tenders should be addressed to "Vallenlednings och Belysningsstyrelsen Orebro," where they will be received up to 28th February.

A notice appears in the supplement to the "Post och Inrikes Tidningar," of 13th February, inviting tenders for the supply to the Swedish Telegraph Administration of quantities of various articles, including oakum, white lead, insulators, nails, screws, wire, zinc, various kinds of iron and steel, oils, &c. Tenders must be sent in to the Royal Telegraph Administration, marked "Anbud a materiel," by mid-day on 28th February. Specifications, forms, &c., may be obtained from the "Telegrafstyrelsens linjelyra, 2 Skeppstron, Stockholm. A list of the articles required, with quantities, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

#### **BELGIUM.**

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) has forwarded particulars of a notice issued by the Municipal Authorities of that city inviting tenders for the supply of and putting down paving material on the footpaths in the following streets:—

1. Rue de la Province (Sud). Estimated cost, 1,760*l.*; deposit, 88*l.*

2. Rue Van Maerlant and Rue des Fortifications. Estimated cost, 1,210*l.*; deposit, 60*l.*

The specification ("Cahier des charges") relating to the contract may be obtained from the Hotel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the "Collège des Bourgmestre et Echevins de la

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **BELGIUM**—*continued.*

ville d'Anvers," and should reach the Hotel de Ville not later than the 5th March.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) announces that tenders will be received up to the 12th March at the "Direction Generale des ponts et chaussées, 38 Rue de Louvain, Brussels," for the installation of electric lighting in the new veterinary medical school at Curegham. The estimated cost is 48,000 frs. (1,920*l.*), and a deposit of 4,800 frs. (192*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Conditions, price 1 fr. 80 c. (about 1*s.* 6*d.*), and plans, price 25 fr. 90 c. (about 1*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*), may be obtained from 15, rue des Augustins, Brussels.

### **SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th February contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be received for thirty days after the publication of the notice, for furnishing the Municipality of Barcelona with a steam roller and a road scraper, at the estimated cost of 25,000 pesetas (about 859*l.*), in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta."

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### **ITALY.**

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 13th February, contains Decrees authorising:—(1) The Municipality of Milan to construct and work two electric tramway lines in Milan; and (2) the Municipality of Mestre to construct and work an electric tramway in Mestre.

The following particulars of new enterprises which appear to offer possible openings to British traders are extracted from the February "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Milan:—

A hydro-electric installation is planned at a cost of 720,000*l.* for the production of 30,000 h.p., to be utilised in the Milan district: in addition, the water derived would serve for irrigation purposes.

Requests have been made to the Minister of Public Works, or to the local authority, to utilise water power for the production of electric energy by individuals and firms, as follows:—

Messrs. E. Mende, A. Sprecher, and G. Taiani, from the river Tanagro, Salerno. The Société Piémontaise, from the Dora Baltea,

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### ITALY—continued.

St. Vincent Montjoet, for the manufacture of carbide of calcium. The Company "L'elettricità de Sondrio," from the torrent Mallero, for utilisation at Sondrio. Angelo Omodeo de Catane, from the river Simeto; including the construction of a reservoir above the Ponte dei Saraceni, Aderno, and a canal 13,860 metres long through Aderno, Biancavilla, and Paterno. Francois Ferretti, from the torrent Castellano, commune of Vallec Castellana, province of Teramo; including the construction of a 121 metre canal. The firm of Minoli Brothers, Boine & Pasquale, metallurgical works, Susa, from the Dora Riparia, Susa.

Concessions have been granted by the authorities for the utilisation of water power, as indicated, to the following individuals or firms :—

Engineer Carotti, from the right bank of the Rio Peschiera, Pallanza, for the use of the Bros. Fighetti, millers, of Vignone; Achille Piatti, from the river Aniene, Subiaco, including a turbine installation for supplying electric energy to the Mandela-Subiaco railway, and for lighting Subiaco by electricity; Boccoli Pietro, from the torrent Borsa, Maissana; Sr. de Michetti Vincenzo, from the river Tordino, Teramo.

The communal council of Savigliano has appointed a commission to study a scheme for an extensive system of railway or electric tramway communication in that district. An association has been formed amongst the various communes of Marches for an electric tramway between Ancona and Loreto.

A company has been formed at Genoa, under the name of "Cotonificio Entella," which will instal a large spinning-mill at Lavagna, and will purchase a weaving establishment already in existence at Voltri.

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

According to the "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), Karl and Emanuel Tauber, of Czernowitz (Bukowina), invite estimates for three benzine motor-buses to hold 18 to 20 persons in two compartments, with roof suitable for carrying baggage. The route to be traversed has in parts a gradient of 1 in 10.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**ROUMANIA.**

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 17th February states that tenders will be opened on 17th March, at the Ministry of War, Bucharest, for the supply of sail cloth, tent cloth, needles, indiarubber goods, driving belts, brushes, manometers, lanterns, life buoys, life belts, tarred cordage, drills, saws, planes, &c. Full particulars may be obtained from the Ministry of War (Section 5), Bucharest.

The same issue of the "Bulletin" states that tenders will be opened on 31st March, at the Directorate-General of State Monopolies, calea Victoriei 127, Bucharest, for the supply of 500,000 jute salt bags, 70,000 metres of jute cloth and 14,000 jute tobacco bags, in accordance with particulars to be obtained from the above address.

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**BULGARIA AND OTTOMAN EMPIRE.**

The "Handels Museum" (Vienna) quotes from various reports of Austro-Hungarian Consular officers regarding opportunities for trade in iron bedsteads.

**Iron Bedsteads.** In Rustchuk there has been a noteworthy demand for iron bedsteads, owing to an anticipated increase in price. From Varna a warning comes to attend carefully to packing, as beds with damage to the ornamentation or to the cast iron parts will not be accepted except at reduced prices. An important trade is done in Salonika, especially for beds with tall posts for carrying mosquito nets; rich brass ornamentation is favoured. Climatic conditions in Beirût have destroyed business in wooden bedsteads, and the demand for the iron article is strong. They should have  $2\frac{1}{2}$  metre high columns for mosquito nets, and should be 2 metres long by 90 or 105 centimetres broad, or occasionally 120 centimetres.

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**SERVIA.**

In his recent report on the trade of Servia for the year 1904, the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Hon. W. G. Thesiger, D.S.O.) states that the importation of paper into that country during the year in question was 49,726*l.* as compared with 50,674*l.* in the preceding year. Of this amount Austria-Hungary supplied 39,586*l.*, Germany 5,448*l.* and France 4,275*l.* Ordinary blotting paper and packing paper of all kinds was valued at 3,714*l.*; note paper and finer papers for drawing, printing, &c., at 17,740*l.*; cigarette paper at 4,219*l.*; printed paper, ruled or in squares, 3,944*l.*; and paper bags, with or without inscriptions, 1,571*l.*

British manufacturers, he adds, have at present practically no

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### SERVIA—*continued.*

share in this trade, the total imports from the United Kingdom being only valued at 13*l.*, though there is every reason to believe that British note paper would find a market, as a large quantity of the note paper sold in Serbia is provided with English names, though manufactured on the Continent.

In the same report Mr. Thesiger writes:—"Attention might with advantage be devoted to all that comes under the heading of haberdashery, in which a large business is done with foreign firms. British-made cuffs, collars, shirts, ties, &c., would find a ready sale; the prices paid for such articles are high in comparison with the quality of the goods; more regard seems to be paid to the appearance of smartness than to wearing qualities, and a good business is open to manufacturers who can combine both qualities in reasonable proportion at a moderate price. The importation of felt hats for men is also considerable, and consists mostly of soft felt hats of various shapes."

#### **Haberdashery and Hats.**

"With regard to leather the value of imports from the United Kingdom varies very considerably every year; the imports themselves consist almost entirely of the leather known as 'bellies,' one firm alone importing from 25 to 30 tons yearly. The Servian demand for boot leather and leather for harness, calf Russian leather and shagreen is considerable and worth attention. Should any British firm desire further information on the subject I shall be glad to put them in communication with one of the principal Belgrade firms." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,529.*)

#### **Leather.**

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The German Consul in Seattle draws attention to numerous projected irrigation works in the Western States of America. Congress has voted over 6,000,000*l.* towards the cost of irrigation, and a first instalment of 1,000,000*l.* has been paid. Amongst these schemes the following are the most important:—(1) The North Platte scheme for the irrigation of 350,000 acres in Wyoming and Nebraska; (2) the Minidoka scheme for the irrigation of 130,000 acres on the two sides of the Snake River in Southern Idaho; (3) the PayetteBoise scheme for dealing with 350,000 acres, also in Idaho, on the banks of the Payette, Boise, and Snake Rivers; (4) the Palouse scheme for the irrigation of 101,000 acres in the southern part of Washington State. This project is estimated to cost about 1,280,000*l.*, but there are difficulties in the way of its being carried out at once; (5) the Shoshone project in Wyoming. The area

#### **Irrigation Works.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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to be taken in hand is about 75 miles east of Yellowstone Park, and is 100,000 acres in extent. The work proposed includes the construction of a 50,000*l.* dam; (6) the Milk River (Montana) scheme—the most extensive of all—embracing 450,000 acres; (7) the Malheur scheme (100,000 acres) in Oregon, at an estimated cost of 840,000*l.*; and (8) the Klamath scheme for the irrigation of 240,000 acres, in the basin of the Klamath in Oregon and California.

The German Consul points out the immense increase in value which the completion of these irrigation works will give to the lands. The tracts to be watered consist, to a large extent, of private land, and only in certain instances of government property.

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**CUBA.**

The Cuban “Gaceta Oficial” of 31st January, contains a Law sanctioning the expenditure of 20,000 dollars on constructing and repairing telegraph lines and wireless telegraphy installations.

**Telegraph  
Material.**

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**BRAZIL.**

H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. A. Chapman) draws attention to particulars published in the “Brazilian Review” of a competition for the presentation of plans for the construction of a building for the National Congress of Brazil. Projects destined to compete will be received in the Secretarial Department of the Federal Senate up to 4 p.m. on the 31st May next. Three prizes, of 15,000, 10,000, and 5,000 milreis, respectively, will be awarded to the authors of the best plans presented, and a further sum of 5,000 milreis is to be spent in acquiring those which, although not awarded prizes, are, in the opinion of the judging Commission, deserving of being acquired for the National Congress.

The text of the programme, in accordance with which plans must be drawn up, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

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**PERU.**

“El Peruano” of 30th December contains copy of a law sanctioning the expenditure of 1,091*l.* during each of the years 1906-7, on the construction of a telegraph line to connect Puquio (Province of Lucanas) and Coracora (Province of Parinacochas with Nazca (Department of Ica).

**Telegraph  
Material.**

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### CHINA.

In a recent report by the United States Special Agent in China, it is stated that the use among the Chinese of **Enamelled Ware.** utensils of enamelled ware is steadily increasing, both in quantity and in variety of articles. Up to the present time the market has been controlled by Austrian manufacturers. Decorated enamelled ware is limited in sale to the cities where the Chinese have a greater purchasing power, while the plain ware has a large sale in all towns and cities and throughout the provinces. The articles most in use are, first of all, ordinary plain wash basins, blue outside and white inside, having a rim diameter of from 9 to 15 inches. Basins decorated on the white inside ground with gaudily coloured flowers or other figures of occidental design also take very well. Three or four designs are placed on the inner side of wash basins, with one bottom figure, also on the inner side, and the decoration may be either raised or smooth. Enamelled wash basins are quoted at prices varying according to their dimensions, colour of enamelling, whether light or dark blue or pink. Blue enamelled tea kettles of different capacities, ranging from 1 to 3 quarts, sell well. Tea or water kettles are in large use among the Chinese throughout all the large towns and cities, and are having an increasing and spreading demand in all of the adjacent provinces.

According to the "North China Herald" of 12th January, the Board of Commerce and the Viceroy of Canton have decided to build a railway between Nanhsiung and Canton, and have commenced investigations as to the source of funds and the route of the line.

#### **Railway Construction.**

### FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

#### UNITED KINGDOM.

Prospectuses have been received of an International Engineering and Machinery Exhibition, to be held at Olympia, London, W., from 15th September to 17th October next; an International Printing, Stationery, and Allied Trades Exhibition, to be held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, from 14th to 31st July next; and of an International Pianoforte and Music Trades' Exhibition to be held at the Crystal Palace from 16th June to 14th July next.

*Openings for British Trade.***RUSSIA.**

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports with reference to the forthcoming Architectural and Building Exhibition at St. Petersburg (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th March, 1905, p. 495) that the question of postponing the date of opening (3rd April) is being considered.

Mr. Cooke has forwarded copies, in French, of the regulations, objects etc., and form of application to exhibit, which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**NETHERLANDS.**

With reference to the notices published on pp. 251 and 305 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th and 15th February respectively, the Acting British Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. F. A. Chambers), has now forwarded copies of a map, showing a bird's-eye view of the exhibition which is to be held at Leeuwarden, from the 14th July to the 6th August next (amended dates). These copies may be obtained on application, until the supply is exhausted, at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that a Dutch institution, entitled the International and Industrial Exhibition and Sale Society, is organising at Amsterdam a permanent industrial exhibition where foreign manufacturers will be able to display their goods, and make them known to the Dutch public.

The Society not only undertakes the organisation and upkeep of this exhibition, but is also prepared to act as agents for the sale of goods. It is proposed to establish agencies wherever they are likely to prove most useful, and also to publish a journal with a view to calling public attention to the exhibition. Each number of this journal will contain one or several articles detailing the merits of the goods exhibited, the various agents being charged with the distribution of the journal in their districts.

**ROUMANIA.**

With reference to the notice published on p. 582 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th December, and to previous notices respecting the exhibition to be held at Bucharest in June next, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires in Roumania (Mr. H. E. Browne) reports that the concession for the international pavilion for foreign exhibits has been given to Monsieur Erlich (address Poste Restante, Brussels) and that intending exhibitors should communicate with him. The Commissioner General for the Exhibition (Dr. Istrati) is desirous of extending its international character, and has expressed the hope that there may be a special section of British exhibitors.

## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**Bulgaria.**—A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Agent and Consul-General at Sofia (Sir G. W. Buchanan, K.C.V.O., C.B.), from which the following extract, referring to interviews with various prominent Bulgarian officials, is taken:—

“Regret was expressed that Great Britain had not, like Austria-Hungary, France and Germany, established a bank at Varna or Sofia. Such a bank, if it comprised a Commercial Department, would be of great service in keeping British firms informed of the various openings which Bulgaria had to offer for the profitable investment of British capital, and a British bank of this character could count on the goodwill of the Bulgarian Government. It might also be feasible to combine with it an industrial museum where samples and catalogues of British goods and machinery could be seen by intending purchasers. Such a museum, under the charge of an Austrian subject, had been started by Austria-Hungary at Sofia, and a similar one was likely to be opened shortly by the government of that empire at Rustchuk.”

**Servia.**—The British Vice-Consul at Belgrade (Hon. W. G. Thesiger, D.S.O.) in his report on the trade of Servia during the year 1904, just issued by the Foreign Office, writes:—

“With regard to the general tendency of British trade with Servia there is not much to be said. It is satisfactory to note that the practice of translating catalogues seems to be on the increase, as catalogues in English are altogether useless, the languages most widely understood in Servian commercial circles being German and then French. It is to be hoped that by means of this and similar measures the basis of British trade may be widened, but no great progress can be expected until manufacturers are prepared to pay more attention to the particular requirements of the country. As matters now stand three-quarters of the value of the British trade is made up by the importation of cotton goods, while the other branches are, comparatively speaking, neglected, their values for the past year in only two cases exceeding 10,000*l.*, though they ought to be capable of being considerably increased. . . . [See “Openings for British Trade,” p. 349.]

“In looking at the future possibilities of Anglo-Servian trade there is no use in disguising the fact that one of the greatest obstacles to its further increase is the deep-rooted mistrust which exists in the United Kingdom with regard to Servian commercial morality and the consequent disinclination to grant credit. If one may judge by the small number of cases in which Consular intervention is asked for in obtaining payment for sums due, then it must be acknowledged that this feeling of insecurity is somewhat exaggerated. The necessity for caution and careful enquiry cannot be too strongly impressed upon all who enter into trade relations with Servia, but if proper precautions are taken there seems no reason why the commerce between the two countries should not be largely extended to the mutual benefit of both. . . .

*British Trade Abroad.*

"Unlike Austria-Hungary and Germany, the United Kingdom has neither bank nor commercial colony in Belgrade, and is thus deprived of a source of information, which, being in daily touch with the commercial world, can be relied on to supply the necessary warning or information in time. The Servian agents of many British firms live at Trieste, Vienna and Budapest, and rely in their turn on sub-agents, which increases delays and opens a further door to misunderstandings or fraud. Besides this, many of the financial advantages of the Servian trade, which might well be concentrated in British hands, are scattered in various countries to the profit of foreign banks and agencies.

"The surest means to remedy this state of affairs would be to establish in Belgrade a British commercial bank and agency." [See the Report itself, pp. 16-17, for details of this recommendation.] (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,529.)

## TRADE OF NATAL.

With reference to the article published on pp. 211-2 of the "Board of Trade Journal," of 1st February, respecting the trade of Natal, a communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, from their correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew), correcting the figures previously given for the imports of "hardware and metal manufactures" during the five months, July—November, 1905, from 295,706*l.* to 423,478*l.*, and the total for "other goods" from 1,648,438*l.* to 1,520,666*l.*

Mr. Agnew also forwards the following statement of the imports into Natal oversea during the year 1904 and the eleven months ended 30th November, 1905:—

From—	1904.		1905.	
	January to June.	July to December.	January to June.	July to November.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ... ..	3,083,000	3,192,000	2,975,000	2,668,000
Other parts of British Empire ... ..	952,000	805,000	942,000	583,000
Foreign countries ... ..	1,490,000	1,152,000	1,127,000	1,251,000
Total merchandise and Govern- ment stores ... ..	5,525,000	5,149,000	5,044,000	4,502,000
Specie ... ..	10,000	77,000	239,000	106,000
Grand total imports oversea ...	5,535,000	5,226,000	5,283,000	4,608,000
	10,761,000		9,891,000	

NOTE—The figures for the five months ended 30th November, 1905, are taken from South African Statistical Bureau's Monthly Returns.

### TRADE OF BENGAL WITH NEPAL, TIBET, &C.

The following particulars of the trade of Bengal with each of the trans-frontier countries of Nepal, Tibet, Sikkim, and Bhutan, are extracted from the official report for the year ended 31st March last, issued by the Bengal Government:—

The trade of Bengal with the territories named consists in imports of natural produce—chiefly grain from Nepal, wool from Tibet, timber from Bhutan, &c.—and exports of manufactures such as cotton goods and metals. The following figures show the value of the import and export trade (exclusive of treasure) during the years ended 31st March, 1904 and 1905:—

#### Trade of Bengal with Trans-Frontier Countries (excluding Treasure).

From and to—	1903-4.		1904-5.	
	Imports into Bengal.	Exports from Bengal.	Imports into Bengal.	Exports from Bengal.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Nepal ... ..	1,46,94,040	88,98,420	1,50,10,913	95,50,730
Tibet ... ..	3,56,814	3,92,361	4,10,794	7,38,946
Sikkim ... ..	3,09,872	3,10,770	2,35,108	3,61,144
Bhutan ... ..	7,01,315	1,18,817	5,60,144	1,38,306
Total ... ..	1,60,62,041	97,20,368	1,62,16,959	1,07,89,126

The largest item in the import trade is rice from Nepal, amounting, in the year 1904-5, to 1,163,243 maunds husked (value Rs. 40,62,400), and 1,396,408 unhusked (value Rs. 28,97,495). The other principal items of import from Nepal are raw jute, animals, hides, ghi, and oilseeds. The most important group of exports to Nepal is that of cotton goods. The total yarn exports average in value about Rs. 11,24,847, and those of piece-goods about Rs. 29,93,193; foreign (as contrasted with "Indian") descriptions of the latter showing this year a substantial increase both in quantity and value. The other principal articles of export to Nepal are brass, copper, iron, and other metals, provisions, salt, tobacco, and spices.

The trade with Tibet is still so small and, at the date of the report, was in such a state of transition as scarcely to furnish reliable data for statistical examination. The chief article of importation from Tibet is wool, which still represents about 65 per cent. of the entire imports. The chief article of export to Tibet was as usual, and as in the case of Nepal, cotton goods.

Nothing in the trade with Sikkim and with Bhutan calls for remark except the extent to which the timber trade dominates the rest. As the substantial increase of timber imports that took place in 1903-4 raised the total value of Bhutan's trade by some 54 per cent., so in 1904-5, on the contrary, a decline of Rs. 1,62,516 in this item more than accounts for the net decline of 15 per cent. The Sikkim trade, which took increased quantities of piece-goods, manufactured silk, and sugar, yielded diminished quantities of timber, fruits and vegetables, grain and pulse, and other rain crops, with the result of a net decline in value of Rs. 24,390.

## PRODUCTION OF PIG-IRON, BESSEMER STEEL INGOTS, AND RAILS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The "Bulletin" of the American Iron and Steel Association publishes the following statistics, received from the manufacturers, of the production of pig-iron, Bessemer steel ingots, and rails in the United States in 1905:—

The total production of all kinds of pig-iron in 1905 was 22,992,380 tons, against 16,497,033 tons in 1904, 18,009,252 tons in 1903, and 17,821,307 tons in 1902. The following table gives the half-yearly production in the last four years:—

Periods.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
First half ... ..	8,808,574	9,707,367	8,173,438	11,163,175
Second half... ..	9,012,733	8,301,885	8,323,595	11,829,205
Total ... ..	17,821,307	18,009,252	16,497,033	22,992,380

The production of 1905 was the largest yet recorded; it exceeded that of 1904 by 6,495,347 tons or over 39 per cent. The total number of furnaces in blast on December 31st, 1905, was 313, against 261 on December 31st, 1904.

The total production of Bessemer steel ingots and castings in 1905 was 10,941,375 tons, against 7,859,140 tons in 1904, an increase of 3,082,235 tons, or over 39 per cent. The production in 1905 was much the largest yet recorded, greatly exceeding that of 1902, the year of next largest production, when 9,138,363 tons were made.

The production of all kinds of rails in the United States in 1905, amounted to 3,372,257 tons, against 2,284,711 tons in 1904, an increase of 1,087,546 tons, or 47·6 per cent. The maximum production was reached in 1905. The year of next largest production was 1903, when 2,992,477 tons were made. The increase in 1905 over 1903 amounted to 379,780 tons, or over 12 per cent. Rails rolled from purchased blooms, crop ends, "seconds," and re-rolled, or renewed\*, rails are included.

The following table gives the production of all kinds of rails (including street rails) in 1905 according to the weight of the rails per yard:—

—	Under 45 pounds.	45 pounds and less than 85.	85 pounds and over.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Bessemer rails ... ..	209,853	1,468,123	1,510,699	3,188,675
Open-hearth rails ... ..	16,409	131,501	35,354	183,264
Iron rails ... ..	318	—	—	318
Total ... ..	226,580	1,599,624	1,546,053	3,372,257

\* Renewed rails are rails that have been in use and after re-heating are rolled down to smaller sections.

*Production of Pig-Iron, Bessemer Steel Ingots, and Rails, in the United States of America.*

The production of **Bessemer steel rails** in 1905 amounted to 3,188,675 tons, against 2,137,957 tons in 1904, an increase of 1,050,718 tons, or over 49 per cent.

The total production of **open-hearth steel rails** in 1905 was 183,264 tons, against 145,883 tons in 1904. The maximum production of open-hearth rails was reached in 1905; the year of next highest production was 1904.

The production of **iron rails** in 1905 was 318 tons, as compared with 871 tons in 1904.

NOTE.—The ton referred to is the gross ton of 2,240 lbs.

**CERTAIN COTTON GOODS EXHIBITS AT ST. LOUIS.**

The recently issued report of H.M. Commissioners for the St. Louis Exhibition contains the following remarks by the British Juror for Textiles (Mr. J. M. Campbell) relative to the growth of certain foreign and native competition in South America and elsewhere in the cotton goods trade:—

“I would here particularly emphasise the methods adopted by France, the Chamber of Commerce of Roubaix, and the various syndicates, together with a small number of private firms, making a joint collection of 144 exhibitors, showing the importance of the cotton industries of France, and the desire to retain her large export trade in these goods to the South American and other similar markets. The designs and colourings were of an up-to-date character, and well suited to an export trade.

“Passing on to the cotton fabrics of Japan, we were much impressed with the beautiful fabrics chiefly represented in the 54 exhibits of fine cotton, crapes, printed, figured and striped, and, without doubt, these articles will, in the near future, have a greatly increased sale in the Western markets. . . .

“The 50 exhibits of Mexico, comprising examples in cotton cloths, shawls, blankets, belts, &c., &c., are to be noted as being goods especially made for native consumption; but the many exhibits are evidence of the great number of manufacturers engaged in producing cotton goods for the home market. . . .

“The 24 exhibits from Brazil were marked by an especially interesting collection of cotton goods, suited to the South and Central American markets. . . . At the present moment Brazil is unable to produce sufficient goods for her own consumption; but, at no distant date, with almost all machinery entering the country free of duty, the enterprise shown at the St. Louis Exhibition will, without doubt, be of immense benefit in the development of her manufacturing industries. The goods are of a kind entirely for home use, and are produced in the districts of Rio de Janeiro, San Paulo, Pernambuco, Maranhao, Rio Grande do Sul, and several others, thus showing that the manufactories are well distributed.”

## P'ING HSIANG COAL MINE IN KIANGSI.

The following particulars respecting the P'ing Hsiang coal mine in Kiangsi are extracted from a report by the Acting British Consul at Changsha (Mr. A. J. Flaherty), based on information supplied by Lieut.-Commander E. R. Dugmore, R.N., who recently paid a visit to the mine:—

The colliery of P'ing Hsiang, which is owned by a Chinese company, was started to supply coke and coal to the Hanyang Iron and Steel Works in 1900. The mining works are situated at the village of An Yuan, about four miles from the district town of P'ing Hsiang.

The European staff at the mine is composed entirely of Germans. The total number of Chinese employed by the Company is 3,000, and they live on the property. The men work in shifts of eight hours and are paid as follows:—headmen 30 cents, miners 25 cents, and coolies 20 cents.

The coal produced is bituminous and somewhat similar to Welsh coal. The quantity lying within 700 feet of the surface is estimated at 5,000,000 tons, the mine being situated in one of the richest portions of the great coal area of south-east Hunan, which extends across the border into Kiangsi province. The coal varies considerably in hardness, some seams containing good firm coal, and others coal so friable as to crumble in the hand. Both kinds may be met with in one seam. The hard coal is suitable for steam purposes, and the soft for making coke and lignite. At present both kinds are sold promiscuously, owing to defective transport and to the lack of offices for the sale of the coal, and the output is from 650 to 700 tons per day. Of this quantity about half is made into coke, and of the remainder, some is used on the railway from P'ing Hsiang to Chüchou, some on the tow boats which take the lighters from Chüchou to Hanyang, and the residue is put on the market. Allowing for holidays, the annual output of coal may be estimated as between 108,000 and 116,000 tons, the production being restricted on account of difficulties of transport.

The difficulty of transport has been the chief disadvantage under which the mine has laboured hitherto. At present the coal is brought by rail to Liling and forwarded by boat to Chüchou for transhipment into large junks and lighters there, but when the line is completed from Liling to Chüchou the coal will be brought direct to Chüchou by rail, whence the Company's tugs tow the large junks and lighters to Hanyang.

With improved transport a good grade of coal should be obtainable at Hankow, where a large office is to be opened. The present price of the coal is approximately 6 taels per ton at the mine itself, 10 taels at Hankow and 11 taels at Shanghai. No likin is paid on the coal in its transit from P'ing Hsiang to Hanyang. The price paid for coke by the Hanyang works is 11 taels per ton.

A plant for the manufacture of briquettes from the soft coal has already arrived, and some briquettes will be put on the market within the next year. The price at the mine is estimated at 10 taels per ton, and as the briquettes will be useful for steaming purposes it is anticipated that their sale will rank next to that of coke in importance.

## NEW EUROPEAN CUSTOMS TARIFFS.

The Board of Trade desire to direct special attention to the fact that new Customs Tariffs will come into force on the 1st March in Germany, Russia, and Roumania, and possibly also in Austria-Hungary. Announcements with regard to the first three of these have appeared in various issues of the "Board of Trade Journal," but it may be useful to refer once again to those announcements, and to indicate other sources of information which are available with respect to the rates of duty fixed by the Tariffs in question.

**Germany.**—Reference should be made to the issues of the "Journal" for the 7th December, 1905, p. 441, and the 18th January, 1906, p. 116. A translation of the new German Tariff as modified by treaties concluded with Russia, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, Roumania, and Servia, has been published by the Board of Trade as a Parliamentary paper, and copies of this (Reference No. Cd. 2,414, price 1s. 10*d.*) may be obtained from the Sale Agents.\* Particulars of a few additional modifications in the Tariff resulting from a Convention with Bulgaria, appeared in the "Journal" for the 1st February, p. 218.

**Russia.**—Notices with regard to the application of the new Russian Tariff have appeared in the issues of the "Journal" for the 24th August, 1905, p. 355, and the 7th September, 1905, p. 455, and a further notice also appears at p. 310 of last week's issue. The new Russian "General" Tariff has been published by the Board of Trade as a Parliamentary paper [Cd. 1,525], and copies of this may also be obtained from the Sale Agents\* at a price of 7½*d.* each. This edition of the "General" Tariff, however, requires to be read in connection with certain modifications therein which have been made since its publication, and announced in the "Journals" for the 11th August, 1904, the 13th July, 1905, and the 2nd November, 1905. It has also to be pointed out that reduced duties—*i.e.*, reduced as compared with the "General" Tariff rates—have been conceded by treaty to Germany and France, and that these reduced duties will be applicable to imports into Russia from the United Kingdom (together with such further reductions as may be conceded to other Powers as a result of negotiations yet to be undertaken), in virtue of the most-favoured-nation clause in the Anglo-Russian Treaty of 1859. An *interim* statement, showing the new rates of duty as modified by the French and German Treaties, is now in preparation, and will be published as soon as possible as a Parliamentary paper. In the meantime particulars as to the reduced duties on particular articles can be obtained from the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

**Roumania.**—Notices relating to the new Roumanian Tariff and the new Anglo-Roumanian Commercial Treaty have appeared in the issues of the "Journal" for the 14th December, 1905, and for the

\* MESSRS. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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*New European Customs Tariffs.*

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4th January and the 1st and 8th February, 1906. A return containing a translation of the new Tariff as modified by the Treaties which Roumania has concluded with the United Kingdom and Germany, and including particulars of the tare rates allowed on goods dutiable by weight, is now in preparation, and will be published as a Parliamentary paper as soon as possible. This, when available, may also be obtained from the Sale Agents. It should be added that the "Conventional" rates of duty which will be quoted in this Return may be subject to further modification as the result of Commercial Treaties still to be concluded by Roumania, and that any such modifications will be extended to the United Kingdom in virtue of the most-favoured-nation clause in the recently concluded Anglo-Roumanian Treaty.

**Austria-Hungary.**—The new "General" Tariff for Austria-Hungary has not yet been definitely enacted. It has, however, formed the basis of negotiations with Germany, which, as already mentioned, have resulted in the conclusion of a treaty, and it is anticipated that it may come into force with the modifications resulting from that Treaty on the 1st March. It will also probably form the basis of further negotiations with other countries. A translation of the "General" Tariff was published by the Board of Trade in 1903 [Cd. 1,672], and copies may be obtained from the Sale Agents\* at the price of 9d. each. An *interim* statement, showing the new rates of duty as modified by the German Treaty and by any other Treaties of which particulars may have been received in time for insertion, is now in preparation, and will be published as soon as possible as a Parliamentary paper. In the meantime, information as to the reductions from the new "general" rates conceded by the German Treaty may be obtained from the Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Certain alterations in the **Belgian** and **Italian** Tariffs, consequent upon the new Commercial Treaties which those countries have concluded with Germany, are to take effect from the 1st March and the 31st March next respectively; and, in the case of the **Belgian** Tariff, various modifications, additional to those provided for by the new Treaty with Germany, are also to come into force on the 1st March. Full particulars of these forthcoming changes in import duties have been published in the "Board of Trade Journal"—as regards **Belgium**, in the issues for 21st and 28th September, and for the 5th and 19th October, 1905; and, as regards **Italy**, in the issues for 3rd August, 1905, and the five following issues.

It may be useful to add that a new Tariff came into force in **Switzerland** on the 1st January. A translation of this, as modified by the recent Swiss-German and Swiss-Italian treaties was issued by the Board of Trade in October last [Cd. 2,768], and copies may be obtained from the Sale Agents\* at the price of 7d. each.

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\* Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

### *New European Customs Tariffs.*

As regards **Bulgaria**, information as to the concessions from the rates of the new "General" Tariff of the Principality accorded to the United Kingdom under the recent Anglo-Bulgarian Commercial Convention appeared in the "Journal" for the 21st December, 1905. It is intended to publish shortly a translation of this Tariff as amended by treaties, and in the meantime information as to the rates of duty now leviable on specific articles may be procured from the Intelligence Branch. The New Bulgarian tariff came into force on the 14th January.

Reference may also be made to the notice which appeared in the "Journal" for the 11th January respecting alterations in the **French** import duties on certain silk goods, condensed milk, cheese, watches, electrical machinery, &c.; to the notice in the same issue on the subject of modifications in the **Swiss** Tariff under the provisional Commercial Arrangement with Austria-Hungary; and to the notice in last week's issue respecting the contemplated revision of the **Spanish** Tariff.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The following further list of the general duties under the Import Tariff of British India is in continuation of **Tariff Valuations.** that published on pp. 311-14 of last week's "Journal":—

#### SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	<b>METALS, &amp;c.—<i>contd.</i></b>			
	Metals, unwrought and wrought— <i>contd.</i>			
	Steel plates above $\frac{1}{8}$ in. thick, and strips...	ton	R. a. 100 0	1 %
	" sheets up to $\frac{1}{8}$ in. " ...	"	115 0	"
	" plates, sheets, other than corrugated strips, if galvanised, tinned, lead-coated, or planished.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	" sheets, corrugated, galvanised or black	ton	180 0	"
	" hoop ... ..	"	135 0	"
	" nails ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	" nuts and bolts, also hooks and nuts for roofing, galvanised or black.	...	"	"
	" old ... ..	ton	130 0	"
	" beams, joists, pillars, girders, bridge work, and other such descriptions of steel imported exclusively for building purposes.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	" cast and blistered, including spring and tub steel.	...	"	"

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.***SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF**—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	<b>METALS, &amp;c.—<i>contd.</i></b>			
	Steel ridging, guttering, and continuous roofing.	...	R. a. <i>ad val.</i>	1 %
	" pipes and tubes, including fittings therefor, such as bends, boots, elbows, tees, sockets, flanges, and the like.	...	"	"
	" rails, chairs, sleepers, and fishplates, other than those described in No. 60, also spikes (commonly known as dog spikes), switches, crossings, lever-boxes, clips, and tie-bars.	...	"	"
	" rivets and washers, all sorts...	...	"	"
	" wire, including fencing wire and wire rope, but excluding wire-netting.	...	"	"
	" cans, tinned, when imported containing petroleum, which is separately assessed to duty at one anna per imperial gallon under No. 16.	can	0 3	5 %
	" all other sorts, including discs or circles and wire-netting.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Tin, block ... ..	cwt.	105 0	"
	" foil, and other sorts ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Zinc or spelter, nails ... ..	...	"	"
	" " tiles or slabs, soft ... ..	cwt.	22 0	"
	" " " " hard... ..	"	18 0	"
	" " all other sorts, including boiler tiles.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	All other sorts of metals ... ..	...	"	"
	<b>OILS.</b>			
16	Petroleum, including also naphtha and the liquids commonly known by the names of rock-oil, Rangoon oil, Burma oil, kerosine, paraffin oil, mineral oil, petroline, gasoline, benzol, benzoline, benzine, and any inflammable liquid which is made from petroleum, coal, schist, shale, peat, or any other bituminous substance, or from any products of petroleum.	imp. gal.	...	1 anna.
	Petroleum, which has its flashing point at or above two hundred degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer and is proved to the satisfaction of the Customs Collector to be intended for use exclusively for the batching of jute or other fibre or for lubricating purposes.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
	Petroleum, which has its flashing point at or above one hundred and fifty degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer and is proved to the satisfaction of the Customs Collector to be intended for use exclusively as fuel.	...	"	"
	Cocoanut-oil ... ..	cwt.	19 0	"
	All other sorts of oil, animal or vegetable (including otto of all kinds) and mineral (including paraffin wax).	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.****SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—continued.**

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, UNMANUFACTURED AND MANUFACTURED.		R. a.	
17	Apparel, including drapery, haberdashery, and millinery, and military and other uniforms and accoutrements; but excluding cotton hosiery (for which see No. 30) and boots and shoes (for which see No. 45), and excluding also uniforms and accoutrements appertaining thereto, imported by a public servant for his personal use, which are free.	...	<i>vd val.</i>	5 %
18	Art, works of, except (1) statuary and pictures intended to be put up for the public benefit in a public place, and (2) memorials of a public character intended to be put up in a public place, including the materials used, or to be used, in their construction, whether worked or not, which are free.	...	"	"
19	Bamboos, common, grass, hay, rushes, straw, and leaves.	...	...	Free.
20	Books, printed, including covers for printed books, maps, charts, and plans, proofs, music, and manuscripts.	...	...	"
21	Bristles and fibre, for brushes and brooms	...	...	
22	Brushes and brooms, all sorts	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
23	Building and engineering materials, namely, asphalt, bricks and tiles, cement of all kinds, fire-clay, earthenware piping, lime, and other kinds not otherwise described.	...	"	"
24	Cabinet-ware and furniture	...	"	"
25	Carriages and carts, including motor cars, bicycles, tricycles, jinrikshas, bath chairs, perambulators, trucks, wheel-barrows, and all other sorts of conveyances, and component parts thereof, but excluding motor cars, designed to carry goods and containing a prime-mover, which are free.	...	"	"
26	Chinese and Japanese-ware, including lacquered-ware, but excluding earthenware, china, and porcelain (for which see No. 32).	...	"	"
27	Clocks, watches, and other time-keepers, and parts thereof.	...	"	"
28	Coal, coke, and patent fuel	...	...	Free.
29	Cordage, rope and twine made of any vegetable fibre.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
30	Cotton, and articles made of cotton—			
	Cotton, raw	...	...	Free.
	" twist and yarn	...	...	"
	" sewing thread	...	...	"
	" piece-goods, hosiery, and all other manufactured cotton goods not otherwise described.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	3½ %

(To be continued.)

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 30th December last, which contains a Proclamation issued by the Governor-General of the Australian Commonwealth, notifying that, from and after 1st January, 1906, the importation of "opium, suitable for smoking," into Australia shall be absolutely prohibited, and that the importation of opium *not* suitable for smoking shall be prohibited, unless such opium is imported for medicinal use and by persons licensed in accordance with certain conditions laid down in the Proclamation.

The Proclamation gives, in addition to the conditions prescribed by the Governor-General, the form of licence required to import opium for medicinal use into Australia. A copy of the Proclamation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**MAURITIUS.**

The Board of Trade have received from the Collector of Customs at Port Louis, a copy of a Proclamation (No. 71 of 1905) fixing for 1906 "the rate of exchange at which the value of goods coming from countries in which a gold standard of currency prevails, shall be declared for the purpose of levying *ad valorem* Customs duties thereon."

The rates of exchange are the same as those adopted in previous years, which were given in full on p. 164 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 22nd January, 1903.

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**SIERRA LEONE.**

A copy of the "Petroleum Ordinance, 1906" (No. 1 of 1906), has been received, which was assented to by the Governor of Sierra Leone on 10th January, 1906, and which provides for the consolidation and amendment of the Laws relating to the importation, storage and sale of petroleum in Sierra Leone.

No petroleum which gives off an inflammable vapour at a temperature of below 95 deg. F. shall be allowed to be imported into the Colony.

The present Ordinance, which repeals Ordinances Nos. 32 of 1898 and 15 of 1899 and all Rules and Regulations made thereunder, is to come into force on such a day as the Governor may appoint by Proclamation. A copy of the Ordinance may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.**

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 13th February contains a Presidential Decree fixing the import duty on complete machines for the extraction of gold, put together or in pieces (not including the motors) imported into Madagascar from foreign countries at the rate of 8 frs. per 100 kilogrammes net. (3s. 3d. per cwt.)

**Import Duty on  
Machines for the  
Extraction of  
Gold.**

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**SPAIN.**

With reference to previous notices in the "Journal" on the subject of the Customs régime established by the Swiss-Spanish Commercial Treaty of 1892 and the Swiss-Spanish Provisional Commercial Agreement of the 29th August last, and especially to the notice which appeared on p. 500 of the "Journal" for the 14th September last, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that Decrees have been issued prolonging the Customs régime established by the above-mentioned instruments from the 1st March until the 1st July next.

The United Kingdom and her Colonies, as well as other countries entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment in Spain, will therefore continue to receive the benefits of the reduced rates of duty accorded to imports into Spain from Switzerland under the Swiss-Spanish Treaty of 1892.

**Rate of Exchange  
for Adjustment of  
Customs Duties  
payable in Gold.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th February contains a Royal Decree notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of February was 21·39 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payment of Customs duties which are made in gold, during the second fortnight of the present month, is to be 18 per cent.

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**BRAZIL.**

With reference to the provision in the Brazilian Budget Law for 1906 authorising the Government to reduce the import duty on sugar (*see* p. 323 of last week's "Board of Trade Journal"), the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that the duty on sugar of all kinds imported into Brazil from countries which do not give bounties has been reduced by decree to 200 reis per kilogramme.

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**Reduction of  
Import Duty on  
Sugar.**

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.**

**Customs Law for 1906.** (*Continued from p. 327 of last week's "Journal."*)

Articles subjected to specific duties—*continued* :—

**Miscellaneous Articles.**

Articles.	Rate of Duty.	Articles.	Rate of Duty.
	Pesos. <i>Per kilog.</i>		Pesos. <i>Per doz.</i>
Stearine ... ..	0.08	Collars of cotton or linen or of cotton and linen mixed, for men and boys ... ..	1.25
Matches, of wood ... ..	0.40		<i>Each.</i>
" of wax, stearine or other substances, loose ...	1.60	Felts, adhesive, for men's hats	0.30
Matches, of wax, stearine or other substances, in boxes containing not more than six dozen ... ..	0.80	" not adhesive, for men's and women's hats ... ..	0.50
	<i>Per litre.</i>	Felt, in pieces, for hats ...	<i>Per kilog</i>
Kerosine... ..	0.03		<i>Each.</i>
	<i>Per gross</i>	Hats of wool felt of all kinds, for men and boys ... ..	0.35
Playing cards of all kinds ...	10.00	Hats for men or boys of otter beaver, vicuna, or rabbit skin	1.00
Paper, white or coloured, for wrappings, coverings, or posters; brown paper, coarse or fine, straw paper, and paper for bags ... ..	0.08	Tall hats, varnished, for coachmen ... ..	0.70
Paper, common white, for newspapers, in rolls or reams ...	0.02	Tall hats, of other kinds ...	2.00
Paper, white, for books; and writing paper of all kinds and qualities, including coloured, up to official size ... ..	0.04		<i>Per kilog.</i>
Sackcloth or unbleached aloé fibre canvas ... ..	0.01	Wire nails ... ..	0.02½
Bags of sackcloth or unbleached canvas of aloé fibre	0.01½		<i>Per doz.</i>
		Cuffs of cotton or linen, or of cotton and linen mixed ...	<i>pairs.</i>
			2.00
		Candles of stearine or paraffin, or of stearine and paraffin mixed ... ..	<i>Per kilog.</i>
			0.10
		Emery cloth ... ..	0.20
		Calcium carbide ... ..	0.03

**Tobacco.**

Articles.	Rate of Duty.	Articles.	Rate of Duty.
	Pesos. <i>Per kilog.</i>		Pesos. <i>Per kilog.</i>
Cigars, of Havana tobacco, in wooden boxes ... ..	1.50	Cigarettes of all kinds... ..	1.00
Cigars, of Havana tobacco, loose or in packets, or in cardboard boxes ... ..	2.25	Tobacco stems ... ..	0.15
Cigars of common tobacco (not Havana), in wooden boxes ...	0.60	" Pichua " ... ..	0.20
Cigars of common tobacco (not Havana), loose or in packets or cardboard boxes ... ..	0.75	Snuff ... ..	0.40
		Tobacco, of Havana, in the leaf or cut ... ..	0.70
		Tobacco of other kinds, in the leaf or cut (except Paraguayan)	0.22
		Tobacco, Paraguayan, in the leaf or cut ... ..	0.12

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**ARGENTINE REPUBLIC**—*continued.*

*Article 4.*—The Executive is authorised to allow the free entry of canvas bags for cereals, when the price in the country exceeds 21 centavos gold per kilog.

In the event of bags being allowed free entry, canvas for the manufacture of bags shall enjoy the same privilege.

*II.—Export Duties.*

*Article 5.*—All products, fruits, and manufactures of the country shall be free of export duty.

*Article 6.*—Old iron shall pay a duty of 5 pesos gold per 1,000 kilograms.

*Article 7.*—Cattle imported with the object of wintering in and being subsequently exported from the territory of the Republic shall pay a duty of 3 pesos gold per head.

The Executive Authorities are authorised to remit this duty in the case of those countries which do not levy a duty upon imported Argentine cattle.

*Article 8.*—Firms carrying on import and export trade in merchandise, produce or manufactures of any kind, or engaged in operations with reference to goods in transit for foreign countries, shall pay a statistical tax of 1 per 1,000 on the values represented by their operations, even if these are not liable to Customs taxation.

The Customs Authorities of the Republic shall charge this tax in passing documents in connection with the various branches of the revenue, and shall collect it conjointly with the other taxes to be paid.

*III.—Articles Free of Duty.*

*Article 9.*—The following articles shall be admitted free of import duty :—

Schist oils imported exclusively by gas companies for the carburizing of gas ; cork in the natural state or in strips ; animals of all kinds, provided the sanitary regulations be complied with ; sand and stones carried by vessels as necessary ballast, destined for municipalities ; ships, rigged or not ; sugar cane ; ships' boilers imported by shipowners ; coal, and charcoal, for burning ; casks of wood or iron, put together or not, to be used as receptacles ; coke ; wedges, rails of iron or steel, ties of iron and couplings for railways and steam or electrical tramways, and the plant destined for the installation of electrical tramways and traction (including cars and motors for the same, cables, trolleys, wire reels, brakes, wheel tires, lightning conductors, fuse boxes, springs, insulators, controllers, wheels, rosettes, intersections, and switches) ; staves for casks ; dynamite and special powder for mines ; boats for yacht clubs ; stoves for disinfecting purposes ; receptacles, special bags or sacks, cases put together or not, and tinplate cut for boxes imported directly by meat preserving establishments, and destined to contain preserved meat ; drugs of all kinds for curing sheep scab ; filters (Pasteur or similar systems) ; flour of wheat or maize ; old iron and steel ; fresh fruit and vegetables except grapes ; timber of all kinds ; printed books in general, reviews, printed newspapers, and scientific and literary periodicals, with or without illustrations ;

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**ARGENTINE REPUBLIC**—*continued.*

maps, geographical globes, and copy books for use in schools; locomotives and spare parts for the same; machines for reaping, binding and gleaning, with or without motors, platforms, covers, or tarpaulins, and spare parts thereof; steam thrashing machines, with or without motors, covers, or tarpaulins, and spare parts for the same; steam hulling machines, with or without motors, covers or tarpaulins, and spare parts for the same; sugar refining machinery; ships' machinery; machinery for the manufacture of butter, and spare parts thereof; machinery, accessories and materials destined for the installation of cotton-spinning or wool-combing factories; cotton-ginning machinery; machinery for tannin extraction; mining machinery; materials for use in public sanitary or water works; metallic money; furniture and implements belonging to immigrants and forming part of their luggage; war materials imported for national use; ammunition for military fire-arms; medicines, drugs, and instruments for the use of hospitals, except medicated cotton; naphtha or impure petroleum; oranges; articles exclusively intended for religious purposes, imported under episcopal authority; gold in nuggets, bars, or powder; fresh fish; plants, living; silver, in bars or ingots; seeds, for sowing, of all kinds, with the exception of those otherwise mentioned in this law; serum for the prevention or cure of infectious diseases; wheat, maize, and potatoes, for sowing; utensils, instruments and materials for schools, imported for Provincial Governments or for the Minister or National Council of Education.

*Article 10.*—The Customs will refund to exporters of butter and sterilized milk the duties paid on the importation of wooden cases, complete or in pieces, special wrapping paper and tin receptacles. A similar treatment will be accorded to exporters of flour for their bags, if these weigh more than 250 grammes each.

*Article 11.*—The Executive Authorities shall not grant any exemptions other than those established in this or other special laws.

By *Article 14* the Tariff of Valuations is given statutory authority as from 1st January, 1906. The Executive shall submit to Congress annually within the first month of the Session the modifications thereof which are regarded as necessary.

*Article 26* provides that spare parts of machines made of any kind of metal or other material and of any shape or kind, which are declared on the manifest as such, and which can be shown to belong to the machines for which they are said to be destined, whether they are mentioned in the Valuation Tariff or not, shall receive the benefits which the law accords to the machine itself. The following, however, shall not be considered as spare parts or as forming integral parts of machines:—

Belts made of any material, keys or screw keys, asbestos packing, hand oilers, screws, nuts and bolts, pins, hooks, washers, spikes, bolt pins, chains, pulleys, stop-cocks, saws, rings with or without grooves, either of metal or of cloth, swingle-bars for horses, poles and felts of any kind.

*Article 196* of the Customs Regulations, so far as it prohibited the re-shipment of merchandise which had been entered for direct clearance through the Customs, is cancelled.

(To be continued.)

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## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ECUADOR.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy and summary translation of an Ecuadorian Law, dated 27th October, 1905, modifying the provisions of Articles 85-7 of the Customs Law, which relate to Consular invoices and manifests. The following is the substance of the more important provisions of this Law:—

**New Law  
respecting  
Consular Invoices  
and Manifests.**

All goods imported into the Republic require, for the purpose of clearance through the Customs, the presentation of a Consular invoice stating (a) the name of the sender and of the consignee of the goods, and of the ship, her captain, flag, and place of destination; (b) the total value of the merchandise included in the invoice; (c) marks and numbers, and number of packages; (d) the kind of package (*e.g.* whether bales, cases, casks, &c.); (e) the gross and net weight, in kilogrammes, of each package separately, or of a number of packages containing similar merchandise; (f) contents of the packages, stating precisely the kind of merchandise, without employing general terms such as "woollens," "cottons," "ironware," &c. Invoices must be signed by the sender or his representatives at the port of embarkation; and every document referring to the same invoice must bear the same signature, or be accompanied by a deed of attorney certified by the Ecuadorian Consul explaining the absence of such signature or the substitution of another.

Shipowners who receive on board their vessels cargo destined for Ecuadorian ports must present to the Consul a freight-list or general manifest for each port of destination, giving particulars of all bills of lading, *viz.*, (a) name of shipper or shipping agent; (b) name of consignee at the port of disembarkation; (c) marks and numbers, and number of packages, specifying the kind of package (whether bales, barrels, &c.); and (d) the value of the goods covered by the bill of lading. The Consul who certifies the Consular invoice must also certify the corresponding freight-list and *vice versa*. Shipowners must present in addition a list of the parcels embarked on their vessels for Ecuadorian ports without bill of lading, which list must state:—(a) Shipper's name; (b) Consignee's name; (c) port of destination; (d) gross and net weight of each parcel, in kilogs.; and (e) declared value.

Consular invoices, general manifests, and lists of parcels shipped without bill of lading, must each be made out in quintuplicate, and all the copies must be presented for Consular certification. These documents should be presented before the departure of the vessel from the port of shipment, but may be taken out subsequently and marked by the Consul as "deferred."

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ECUADOR—*continued.*

Ecuadorian Consuls are authorised to charge the following fees for the certification of documents:—

For certification of invoices up to the value	Sucres.*
of 100 sucres ... ..	2·00
For certification of invoices of a value ex- } ceeding 100 sucres ... ..	2 per cent.† of the declared value.
For certification of freight-lists ... ..	20 per cent. of the aggregate invoice fees.
For certification of lists of parcels shipped without bill of lading ... .. parcel	0·25
For certification of any declaration referring to invoices, freight-lists, &c. ... ..	10·00

When invoices, freight-lists, or lists of parcels are presented for certification after the departure of the vessel, the above fees will be increased as follows:—

For invoices ... ..	1 per cent. additional.
For freight-lists ... ..	10 „ „
For lists of parcels ... ..	0·10 sucre more for each parcel.

In the absence of an Ecuadorian Consul at the port of shipment, application should be made to the Consul at the nearest place, if practicable, or to the Consul of a friendly nation, duly authorised by the Ecuadorian Government, or to the principal local authority.

The Board of Trade have also received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the revised Customs Tariff of Ecuador, which came into force by decree of the Ecuadorian Congress on the 1st January, 1906. It is proposed to publish particulars of the principal alterations observable in this revised edition in subsequent issues of the "Journal." In the meantime a copy of the Tariff, as revised, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

\* Sucre = (about) 2s.

† And 1 per cent. additional during two years.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### TRINIDAD—VENEZUELA.

The German Minister in Caracas reports that the *Compañía de New S.S. Service between Trinidad and Ciudad Bolivar.* Vapores del Orinoco have started a fortnightly service, by the steamship "Delta," between Trinidad and Ciudad Bolivar, in connection with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's boats. The steamer "Manzanares" provides, as before, a direct service between La Guaira and other ports and Ciudad Bolivar *viá* Trinidad, according to the requirements of the traffic.

### RUSSIA.

With reference to the notice on page 369 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 24th August, 1905, the British *Vologda-Viatka Railway.* Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke), reports, on the authority of the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," that on the Vologda-Viatka line, now opened for temporary traffic, passengers as well as goods traffic has been established over the whole extent of the line.

The "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," says Mr. Cooke, also publishes some details with reference to the new *St. Petersburg-Vologda Railway.* St. Petersburg-Vologda Railway, regular traffic on which was opened from the 1st/14th January. From the 1st/14th March it is to be included in the direct regular passenger communication of all Russian railways. Its influence will not be fully felt till the new Vologda-Viatka line (on which temporary traffic has already been started) and the new direct line from Perm to Cheliabinsk (the construction of which has already been begun) are completed. The journey from Siberia to the Baltic will then be shortened, affording a regular annual exit for Siberian grain *viá* St. Petersburg.

With the completion of the two lines mentioned the distance from Cheliabinsk to St. Petersburg will be 2,208 versts (1,472 miles), or shorter by 340 versts (226 miles) than *viá* Moscow. It will mean 12 hours saved for passenger traffic and over 24 for goods, and a cheapening of freight of from 17 to 7 copecks per pound. In addition, the conditions of the Siberian export trade will be changed. Butter and game should be despatched to St. Petersburg and Reval, instead of, as now, to Riga and Libau, provided, of course, that the same goods accommodation be arranged at St. Petersburg, or rather at Novi Port, as has been arranged at Riga.

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*Shipping and Transport.*

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**RUSSIA**—*continued.*

Even at once the new St. Petersburg-Vologda line curtails the distance from St. Petersburg to Vologda (as also to Archangel) by 250 versts (166 miles). Neither at St. Petersburg nor at Vologda will the new railway have its own station, existing stations being utilised; at St. Petersburg, that of the St. Petersburg-Moscow line; and at Vologda, that of the Moscow-Yaroslav-Archangel line; nor, in spite of its importance, will the new thoroughfare be administratively independent, but form an appendage of the St. Petersburg-Moscow State Railway.

The same paper states that from information received as to the progress of the Orenburg-Tashkend line, it appears that regular traffic has already been introduced on the northern portion of the line, from Orenberg to the station of Kubek. Over the whole of this extent passenger and goods traffic is being carried on under the normal tariffs of Russian railways, and in direct communication with the Russian railway system. On the southern portion of the line, from Kubek to Tashkend, the construction works are not yet concluded, owing chiefly to the flooding of rivers, and partly to strikes of workmen. It is hoped, however, that the work of construction will be completed by the beginning of the spring, and that regular through traffic will be opened between the stations of the Central Asian Railway and the whole of the Russian railway system in an uninterrupted rail communication.

Mr. Cooke also reports on the same authority that the Ministry of Trade and Industry is at the present time examining the question of tariffs for the conveyance of goods between the Black Sea ports and the Far East. The restoration of goods traffic between China and Russia, *via* the Siberian Railway, is not anticipated in the near future.

Further, that from the beginning of February the Russian Volunteer Fleet was to start regular trips from Odessa to the Far East. It was proposed that two steamships should sail in February from Odessa for Vladivostok, two in March, one in April, three in May, one in June, two in July, three in August, one in September, three in October, and one each in November and December. The departure of steamships from Vladivostok was to begin from January. All steamers from Odessa to Vladivostok will call, *en route*, at Constantinople, Port Said, Suez, Colombo, and Singapore.

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## *Shipping and Transport.*

### GERMANY.

H.M. Minister at Munich (Mr. R. T. Tower) reports that the Bavarian Government have decided to take over all the railways in the Bavarian Palatinate, extending over 500 miles, which have hitherto been administered as private companies. This will take effect on 1st January, 1909, at a cost to the Bavarian Government of more than twelve millions sterling.

The Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Berlin (Mr. W. S. Harriss-Gastrell) has forwarded particulars of certain alterations now made in the regulations affecting German emigrant ships under the Law of 1897. These alterations provide for (1) certain substitutes in the dietary scale, such as pork or bacon for beef, flour for bread (in ships with a bakery), margarine for butter, &c., under specified conditions; (2) Amended lengths of voyages for certain vessels; and (3) an amended list of medicines and medical stores.

Mr. Gastrell has also forwarded particulars of alterations in the "Exceptions from the Regulations concerning Emigrant Ships going to British Ports," of 22nd June, 1898, under the above-mentioned Law of 1897. These alterations refer to certain requirements of the German medical scale in the case of emigrant ships to British ports.

The full particulars may be examined at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### FRANCE—RUSSIA.

The "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" (Paris) states that the "Norddeutscher Lloyd" and "Deutsche Levante Linie" Companies are about to inaugurate a joint weekly service of steamers for the transport of passengers and goods between Marseilles and Batoum, calling at Genoa, Naples, Messina, Piræus, Mytilene, Constantinople, and Odessa. The new service will commence in May next.

### ITALY.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 26th January, contains a Law prescribing:—

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Law as to<br/>Tonnage<br/>Measurement of<br/>Italian Ships:<br/>Increase of<br/>Tonnage Dues.</b></p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The measurement of the tonnage displacement of Italian ships shall henceforward be made according to the system laid down in the British Merchant Shipping Act of 1894;</li> <li>2. The harbour dues of 1 lira 40 centesimi per ton of displacement, as laid down in paragraph (a) of Article 20 of the Law of 23rd July, 1896, establishing</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

### *Shipping and Transport.*

regulations in favour of merchant shipping, for steamers under the Italian flag, and for foreign vessels of a like description, coming from foreign parts, are raised to 1 lira 45 centesimi per ton.

The annual payment for vessels as described remains unaltered at three times the amount of the harbour dues, viz., 4 lira 35 centesimi.

### ECUADOR.

H.M. Consul at Guayaquil (Mr. A. Cartwright) reports with reference to motor and traction car services in Ecuador (see "Board of Trade Journal," 26th October, page 173) that the condition of the roads is very unsuitable for automobiles, and those running between Riobamba and Quito, although reputed to perform the service fairly well, are accused of damaging the roads, so that it is rumoured the traffic will be prohibited.

## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

With reference to the statement on p. 416 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 1st June, 1905, the following particulars of the mineral production of Tasmania during the years 1903 and 1904, extracted from the Report of the Mining Department, have been received from Mr. E. A. Nowell, Clerk of the Executive and Legislative Council of Tasmania:—

	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Gold, fine ... .. ozs.	31,795	135,072	65,921	280,015
Silver ore ... .. tons	7,169	77,270	—	—
Silver lead ore ... .. "	—	—	51,138	203,702
" bullion ... .. "	3,197	103 861	—	—
Copper, native ... .. "	—	—	212	14,416
" (exported) ... .. "	150	11,288	—	—
" blister ... .. "	3,508	239,190	8,371	582,540
Tin (exported) ... .. "	1,263	154,271	2,071	255,228
Auriferous quartz and pyrites				
exported ... .. "	311	9,410	—	—
Coal ... .. "	23,961	20,739	61,109	51,942
All other minerals ... .. "	—	16,139	—	23,349
Total value ... .. £	—	767,240	—	1,411,192

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*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

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**MEXICO.**

Referring to the notice on p. 32 of the Board of Trade Journal of January 4th, to the effect that Mexican refineries producing gold and silver bars of a given degree of purity would be entitled to the re-imbursement of three quarters of the amount of the Internal Stamp tax charged on the mineral or bars purchased by the refineries for treatment, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Mexico City (Mr. W. G. Max Müller) has forwarded translation of a decree issued by the Ministry of Finance specifying the conditions which must be complied with by the refineries in order to obtain the re-imbursement of the taxation for which they may be entitled to apply.

The translation of the decree may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**YARNS AND TEXTILES.****RUSSIA.**

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that, according to the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg of 12/25th January, huge quantities of Central-Asian cotton have accumulated at Krasnovodsk, the Caspian terminus of the Central-Asian railway, as, in consequence of the strikes and disorders on the Vladikavkazskoi Railway, it has not been possible to despatch it to Central Russia and St. Petersburg. The cotton mills of Moscow, Ivanovo-Voznesensk, and St. Petersburg are in consequence suffering from a great insufficiency of raw material. Present supplies at most of the mills will suffice at the most for two or three weeks, after which, if the stocks are not supplemented by the Central-Asian product bought in the autumn, the mills will have to close. Mill-owners have, accordingly, despatched urgent telegrams to the Ministers of Commerce and Ways of Communication, asking that immediate steps should be taken to expedite traffic on the Vladikavkazskoi line, as otherwise the mills will be placed in an extremely difficult position and even in the necessity of closing, which, besides throwing tens of thousands of men out of work, would cause enormous losses to the industries concerned.

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## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 17th February, 1906, were as follows:—

Corn Prices.	Wheat	...	...	...	...	28s. 11d.
	Barley	...	...	...	...	25s. 6d.
	Oats	...	...	...	...	19s. 0d.

For further particulars see p. 382.

A statement is published on p. 383, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 17th February, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The "Pioneer Mail" (Allahabad) states in regard to the sesamum or till crop, which is a very important one in certain provinces in India, that while the injury from drought has proved greater than was anticipated, the actual yield for the season 1905-6 is estimated in the official report at nearly 14,000 tons higher than last year. The Central Provinces are expected to produce 76,400 against 69,000 tons, and Hyderabad 51 per cent. of a normal crop against 41 per cent. in 1904-5. If it had not been for autumn drought in the United Provinces and heavy rain during September in the Central Provinces, the outturn would probably have been a record one. It may be noted as regards the Punjab, that on irrigated land cotton is displacing sesamum, and the production has decreased in a year by 13 per cent.

### FRANCE—INDO-CHINA.

In the course of a report on the trade of Indo-China for the years 1903-04, Mr. G. W. Pearson, assistant in H.M. China Consular Service, states that the present Administration of the Colony will give its attention to the fostering of two new services, that of agricultural experts and of commercial intelligence. In connection with the former, two establishments for agricultural research have been started, one on the delta of the Red River, the other near Thanh-ba. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,528.*)

### SPAIN.

The Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Madrid (Mr. S. P. Cockerell) reports that Señor D. Silverio Mayolas, who has been carrying on experiments in cotton growing in Motril, near Malaga, has set up a modern ginning machine, the first to be used in Spain. The production of cotton per hectare is eight bales of 200 kilogs. each, and Señor Mayolas expects to produce 300 bales in the present year.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

According to a report published in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"\* of the 16th February, based on State of the 8,488 returns, viz., 3,901 from employers or Labour Market in their associations, 4,131 from trade unions, 409 January. from local correspondents, and 47 from other sources, employment in January showed on the whole some improvement as compared with December. There was a considerable improvement in the engineering and shipbuilding trades. In the iron and steel and cotton trades employment remained very good. There was a rise of wages during the month.

As compared with a year ago there was a general improvement in all the important industries with the exception of the building trades, in which employment still showed no change for the better.

In the 271 Trade Unions, with a total membership of 588,121, making returns, 27,614 (or 4·7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of January, 1906, as compared with 4·9 at the end of December, 1905, and 6·8 at the end of January, 1905.

\* See p. 386 for list of principal contents of the "Gazette."

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scotch, and Fishery Statistics, Irish Coasts during the month of January, January, 1906, 1906, compared with the corresponding period of the year 1905:—

	January, 1906.		January, 1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<b>England and Wales—</b>	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Fish, excluding shell fish... ..	604,529	528 912	477,003	452,393
Shell fish ... ..	—	21,825	—	19,089
Total value... ..	—	550,737	—	471,482
<b>Scotland—</b>				
Fish, excluding shell fish... ..	281,375	155,384	280,328	137,402
Shell fish ... ..	—	5,541	—	4,231
Total value... ..	—	160,925	—	141,633
<b>Ireland—</b>				
Fish, excluding shell fish... ..	16,398	10,365	18,068	9,935
Shell fish ... ..	—	931	—	635
Total value... ..	—	11,296	—	10,570

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

*Miscellaneous.***UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

A formal investigation was held in the Moor Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 8th, 9th and 10th February, into the circumstances attending the explosion of a boiler at Felling on the 4th October last. The commissioners found the Inspector of the Law Accident Insurance Company to blame for not having examined the boiler properly. They made no order as to costs.

**Enquiry under  
the Boiler  
Explosions Act.**

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 15th February, 1906, was 72,990 (including 191 bales British West Indian and 39 bales British West African), and the number imported during the seven weeks ended the 15th February was 872,583 (including 455 bales British West Indian and 119 British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 15th February, 1906, 12,232 bales, and for the seven weeks, 71,010.

For further details see p. 382.

A statement showing the number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month ending 31st January, 1906, will be found on pp. 384-5.

**Bankruptcy  
Statistics.**

**CANADA.**

From information received in the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, it is understood that, pending consideration of the subject by the Quebec Legislature, it has been ruled that "for the remainder of the present fiscal year, which ends 30th June, the amount of the tax payable" in the Province of Quebec by Commercial Travellers will be 100 dols.

**Commercial  
Travellers' Tax.**

**AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

The "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" of 6th January contains the text of a Proclamation appointing a Commission to enquire into and report upon (1) the existence or otherwise of a combine, trust, or monopoly in the industry of the manufacture, importation, and sale of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes within the Commonwealth; (2) if such combine, trust, or monopoly be found to exist, as to its effect on the industry and the cultivation of tobacco and on the Commonwealth; (3) as to the advisability or otherwise of the

**Commission to  
Enquire into  
Tobacco Industry  
in the  
Commonwealth.**

*Miscellaneous.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH**—*continued.*

Government taking over the industry of such manufacture, importation, and sale, or any part thereof; and to continue the enquiry commenced by a Select Committee of the Senate in relation to the said matters.

The “*Nachrichten für Handel*” (Berlin) announces that the **German Trade Expert at Sydney.** appointment has been extended for a period of five years of the Trade expert who is attached to the German Consulate at Sydney.

**BRITISH NEW GUINEA.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of “The Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1905” (No. 5 of 1905), which was enacted by the Administrator of British New Guinea on 2nd November last.

The Ordinance in question grants to the Administrator the sole privilege of establishing, erecting, maintaining and using stations and appliances for the purpose of transmitting and receiving messages by wireless telegraphy in British New Guinea, or to or from any place or ship outside that Possession.

Provision is also made for the Administrator to grant, under certain conditions, licences for the establishment, &c., of stations and appliances for the purpose of transmitting or receiving messages by means of wireless telegraphy on the payment of such fees as may be prescribed.

**RUSSIA.**

The following figures, showing the value of the foreign trade of Russia during the year 1905, as compared with preceding years, according to data published by the Russian Customs Department, have been received from the British Commercial Agent at Moscow (Mr. H. Cooke):—

<i>Val.</i>	Imports.	Exports.
	Roubles.	Roubles.
European frontier ... ..	481,513,000	890,002,000
Caucasian Coast of the Black Sea ... ..	11,709,000	64,433,000
Russo-Finnish frontier ... ..	29,781,000	38,248,000
<b>Total, 1905</b> ... ..	<b>523,003,000</b>	<b>992,683,000</b>
„ <b>1904</b> ... ..	<b>583,647,000</b>	<b>955,542,000</b>
Asiatic frontier, 1905 ... ..	59,083,000	54,334,000
„ <b>1904</b> ... ..	<b>71,042,000</b>	<b>50,429,000</b>

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*Miscellaneous.*

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**RUSSIA**—*continued.*

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that the St. Petersburg herring dealers have held a conference with reference to the bracking of foreign herrings, and have passed resolutions to the following effect:—(1) that the Ministry of Trade and Industry be now petitioned to restore the obligatory bracking of herrings; (2) that sworn brackers should be elected by the St. Petersburg and Moscow wholesale dealers and by foreign importers\*, the brackers to be confirmed in their duties by the Ministry of Trade and Industry; (3) that special herring-bracking instructions should be drawn up for their guidance.

**Bracking of  
Imported  
Herrings.**

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**SPAIN.**

The German Consul in Madrid reports that the company known as “Papeteries espagnoles du Val d’Arvan” have by Royal Decree been exempted from the provisions of the Act which prohibits the erection of manufactories in the frontier districts. This company is accordingly empowered to produce annually 10,000 tons of wood-pulp, and to manufacture from it 9,000 tons of printing and wrapping paper.

**New Paper  
Factory.**

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

H.M. Consul-General at San Francisco (Mr. C. W. Bennett, C.I.E.), reports with reference to the proposed exhibition ship from Los Angeles to Pacific ports of Mexico and Central America (see “Board of Trade Journal” for 21st December last, p. 563), that owing to lack of funds, it appears doubtful whether the plan will be carried out.

**Exhibition Ship  
for Pacific Ports.**

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\* By “Foreign Importers” is possibly meant non-Russian importers in Russia, or possibly the importers of foreign herrings.

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## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

**Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 7 Weeks ended 15th February, 1906 :—**

	Week ended 15th Feb., 1906.	7 Weeks ended 15th Feb., 1906.	Week ended 15th Feb., 1906.	7 Weeks ended 15th Feb., 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	55,486	671,613	7,488	34,651
Brazilian ... ..	—	56,410	300	1,780
East Indian ... ..	1,455	23,099	2,199	8,129
Egyptian ... ..	15,249	111,609	2,125	25,542
Miscellaneous ... ..	800*	9,852†	120	908
Total ... ..	72,990	872,583	12,232	71,010

\* Including 191 bales British West Indian, and 39 bales British West African.

† " 455 " " 119 " "

### Corn Prices.

**Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 17th February, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

		Average Price.					
		Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 17th February, 1906	... ..	28	11	25	6	19	0
<b>Corresponding week in—</b>							
1899	... ..	25	7	26	7	16	11
1900	... ..	26	3	25	1	16	9
1901	... ..	26	1	25	0	17	7
1902	... ..	27	1	26	11	20	4
1903	... ..	25	4	23	4	17	1
1904	... ..	26	11	22	7	16	0
1905	... ..	30	5	25	2	16	9

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

### Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 17th February, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 17th Feb., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	10,053	12,772
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	2,319	9,688
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	816	328
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	69,129	118,082
Mutton ... ..	"	43,596	89,983
Pork ... ..	"	14,672	14,768
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	160,290	132,963
Beef ... ..	"	3,119	13,871
Hams ... ..	"	24,402	24,540
Pork ... ..	"	3,711	5,976
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	12,039	11,936
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	12,005	14,632
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	94,117	94,633
Margarine ... ..	"	23,722	23,147
Cheese ... ..	"	17,493	29,879
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	—	—
" cream ... ..	"	72	93
" condensed ... ..	"	12,687	21,434
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	133	43
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hundr.	249,746	195,026
Poultry ... ..	Value £	28,046	25,778
Game ... ..	"	2,675	5,358
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	6,518	2,695
Lard ... ..	"	53,879	35,881
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,051,500	1,558,600
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	249,500	195,100
Barley ... ..	"	438,000	375,200
Oats ... ..	"	256,100	344,500
Peas ... ..	"	35,250	32,390
Beans ... ..	"	19,590	62,490
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	1,076,600	657,700
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	75,092	89,270
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	134	30
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	112,120	75,403
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	176	515
Lemons ... ..	"	13,726	17,560
Oranges ... ..	"	157,480	173,527
Pears ... ..	"	739	49
Plums ... ..	"	91	25
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	1,899	160
Hay... ..	Tons.	2,930	1,979
Straw ... ..	"	3,065	3,599
Moss Litter ... ..	"	1,812	2,887
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	5,848	1,505
Locust Beans ... ..	"	20,946	26,507
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	106,265	101,177
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	8,913	38,262
Tomatoes ... ..	"	14,604	21,946
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	7,778	10,657
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>			
Preserved by canning... ..	Cwts.	2,793	1,183
	"	5,621	6,303

### Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations during the periods indicated.

	January.	
	1906	1905
Total gazetted... ..	No. 428	No. 427
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations :—		
Farmers ... ..	34	25
Grocers, &c.... ..	30	29
Builders ... ..	26	28
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c. ... ..	26	27
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c. ... ..	17	12
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c. ... ..	15	11
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ... ..	14	6
Butchers ... ..	13	5
Bakers ... ..	11	21
Drapers, haberdashers, &c. ... ..	11	10
Tailors, &c. ... ..	11	9
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c. ... ..	11	6
Coal and coke merchants and dealers ... ..	8	4
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses ... ..	6	4
Agents, commission and general ... ..	5	10
Travellers, commercial ... ..	5	4
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ... ..	5	2
Engineers and founders, &c. ... ..	5	2
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ... ..	4	6
General dealers ... ..	4	4
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers ... ..	4	4
Tobacconists, &c. ... ..	4	4
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c. ... ..	4	3
Printers, booksellers, and publishers ... ..	4	
Merchants, general ... ..	4	1
Auctioneers ... ..	3	4
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors ... ..	3	4
Furniture dealers and makers ... ..	3	3

Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	January.	
	1906	1905
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations— <i>continued</i> :	No.	No.
Clothiers, outfitters, &c. ... ..	3	3
Solicitors ... ..	3	3
Contractors ... ..	3	2
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ..	3	2
Hairdressers... ..	2	6
Cabinet makers and upholsterers ... ..	2	5
Confectioners ... ..	2	5
Wheelwrights ... ..	2	4
Cattle and pig dealers ... ..	2	3
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ... ..	2	2
Lodging-house keepers ... ..	2	2
Carpenters and joiners ... ..	2	2
Hosiers, gloves, &c. ... ..	2	1
Brokers, stock and share ... ..	2	—
Cotton spinners and manufacturers ... ..	2	—
Officers in Army ... ..	2	—
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ... ..	2	—
Wine and spirit merchants, &c. ... ..	2	—
Clerks, commercial and general ... ..	1	6
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ... ..	1	4
Milliners, dressmakers, &c. ... ..	1	4
Provision merchants, &c. ... ..	1	4
Gardeners, florists, &c. ... ..	1	3
Ironmongers ... ..	1	3
Architects and surveyors ... ..	1	2
Directors and promoters of public companies ... ..	1	2
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c. ... ..	1	2
Saddlers and harness makers ... ..	1	1
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers ... ..	1	1
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c. ... ..	1	1
Timber merchants and wood dealers ... ..	1	1
Carriage, &c., builders ... ..	1	—
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ... ..	—	5
Millers ... ..	—	1
Fishing smack owners, and masters ... ..	—	1
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ... ..	—	1
Stationers ... ..	—	1

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 9*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 7*d.* for the first and 4*s.* 3*d.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Disputes in 1905; Wholesale Prices in 1905; Co-operative Credit Societies; Labour in New York State; and Relief of the Unemployed.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

#### No. 3,528. Trade of Indo-China, 1903-04.

Railway lines in operation and under construction, with map.

Scheme for new mail service, and for new lines from Saigon to Sydney, and from Saigon to the Far East.

Projects for agricultural and commercial research.

Account of mineral resources.

Exports of rice and conditions of cultivation.

Progress of experiments in cattle-breeding.

#### No. 3,529. Trade of Serbia, 1904.

Small increase in exports and imports.

Analysis of import trade, showing classes of goods worth attention.

Future possibilities of Anglo-Servian commerce. Hints to traders.

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*Government Publications.*

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**No. 3,530. Trade of South Italy, 1905.**

Good promise of success of the new law giving facilities for the industrial development of Naples.

Suggested opening for sundry manufactures, *e.g.*, chemical manures; pottery; fruit preserving; essences.

Notes on imports of Irish goods.

Statistics of trade during

first seven months of 1905. List of articles of import showing increased value.

The emigration movement.

Establishment of Government school of textiles at Naples.

Extended cultivation of tobacco.

Spread of automobiles and motor-boats.

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**OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*International Sugar Commission. Autumn Session, 1905. Report of Proceedings.* [Cd. 2,813.] Price 1d.

This paper contains correspondence in connection with the session of the Permanent Sugar Commission held at Brussels in October last, with a report of its proceedings.

*Report of the Royal Commission on Trade Disputes and Trade Combinations.* [Cd. 2,825.] Price 1s. 1d.

This publication contains the report of the Commission appointed in June, 1903, to enquire into the subject of Trade Disputes and Trade Combinations, and as to the law affecting them. The Commission divided the main subject of their enquiry into the following three branches:—(a) The liability of Trade Union funds to be taken in execution for the wrongful acts of agents of the Union; (b) the statute law relating to picketing and other incidents of strikes; (c) the law of conspiracy as affecting Trade Unions.

*Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission on Trade Disputes and Trade Combinations, together with Index and Appendices.* [Cd. 2,826.] Price 3s. 8d.

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## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*February, 1906.*

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes :—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

March 1, 1906.

[No. 483

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 436.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
Evaporated bananas from the Seychelles Islands ... ..	15th Feb., 1906	333
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Jams sold in Spain, apparently as "British"	21st Dec., 1905	542
Woollen hosiery sold in compe- { Tientsin	14th Dec., 1905	509
tition with British in ... { Shanghai	5th Oct., 1905	10
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Queensland.

Dominion of Canada.

Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 437.

# OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

## UNITED KINGDOM.

### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for War is prepared to receive tenders for the supply of—1, bread and flour; 2, meat; 3, milk; 4, bacon, butter, and cheese; 5, fruit and vegetables; 6, groceries; for the use of the Duke of York's Royal Military School, at Chelsea, during a period of six months from 1st April, 1906.

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained on application at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by letter, or in person between the hours of 10 and 4, and no tender will be entertained unless made upon the form so obtained. Any enquiries as to the method of delivery, approximate quantities, &c., should be made at the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Chelsea.

The tenders are to be delivered at the War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., by noon, on Wednesday, 7th March.

Sealed tenders for Military Services during six months from the 1st May, 1906, will be received until noon on Monday, the 26th March, by the General Officers commanding the undermentioned districts:—

<b>Forage, Peat Moss Litter, and Paillassé Straw.</b>			
Aldershot Army-Corps Command	...	Aldershot.	
Eastern Command 5th Division	...	Dover.	
" " 6th Division	...	Colchester.	
" " Thames & Medway	...	Chatham.	
" " Coast Defences			
" " Woolwich District		Woolwich.	
Irish Command 7th Division	...	Curragh Camp.	
" " 8th Division	...	Cork.	
" " Belfast District	...	Belfast.	
London District	... ..	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.	
Northern Command	... ..	York.	
Scottish Command	... ..	Edinburgh.	
Southern Command 4th Division	...	Mooltan Barracks, Tid- worth, Andover.	
" " Plymouth Coast		Devonport.	
" " Defences			
" " Portsmouth		Portsmouth.	
" " Coast Defences.			
Welsh and Midland Command	...	Chester.	
Guernsey and Alderney District	...	Guernsey.	
Jersey District	... ..	Jersey.	

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained<sup>1</sup> on application at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock.

*Openings for British Trade.***BRITISH INDIA.**

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of electrical equipment for transformer house, as per specification to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C. Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Electrical Equipment," not later than noon, on Wednesday, the 7th March. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

**CANADA.**

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade. Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiry.**—A London metal firm desire to be placed in communication with Canadian producers and shippers of antimony.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Canadian firm have requested to be referred to some prominent dealers in natural history specimens, who would be prepared to take fair numbers of moose, cariboo or deer heads.

A land agent in Manitoba desires to correspond with a reliable real estate agent in Great Britain who would co-operate with him in meeting the requirements of persons wishing to acquire lands in Western Canada.

A Nova Scotia firm have asked to be placed in communication with an English manufacturer of, or large wholesale dealer in, dry colours for paints.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm are prepared to appoint a suitable Canadian resident Agent to do business in their razors and watches.

An enquiry has been received for the addresses of Canadian producers of molybdenite.

A manufacturer of fancy leathers would like to obtain a share of Canadian trade.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A firm of manufacturers' agents in Montreal

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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and Toronto are prepared to represent manufacturers of goods saleable to wholesale grocers and wholesale druggists. United Kingdom references.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**SOUTH AFRICA.**

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Administration of the Central South African Railways, invite tenders for the supply of about 97,000 cubic feet of Oregon pine known on the Liverpool market as "select quality."

Forms of tender, with specifications and conditions of contract, may be obtained on application at the Office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Saturdays 10 to 1), on payment of a deposit of 1*l.* per copy, which will be returnable on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender for the whole or any portion of the timber required.

Tenders are to be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Crown Agents for the Colonies at the above address, not later than noon on Tuesday, 3rd April, endorsed "Tender for Oregon pine, Central South African Railways." The successful tenderer will be required to find security for the satisfactory performance of the contract.

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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**EGYPT.**

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 17th February announces that tenders will be received up to the 30th April, 1906, for the supply and erection of an electric light installation on board H.H.S. "Aida" at Alexandria.

The generating plant is to consist of a suitable engine coupled direct to a 5½ kilowatt dynamo, including switchboard, instruments, wiring, lamps, switches, fuses and ventilators.

The conditions of tender and specifications may be seen on application at the Central Office of the Ports and Lighthouses Administration, Cairo.

Tenders must be addressed to the Director-General of Ports and Lighthouses, Cairo, and be sent in double envelopes, the inner bearing the inscription "Tender for the supply and erection of an electrical light installation on board H.H.S. 'Aida.'"

The Director-General does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**NORWAY.**

The Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) has forwarded particulars of a call for tenders  
**Locomotive Coal.** for the supply, to the Norwegian State Railways, of 101,850 tons of best sort locomotive coal. Tenders from British firms should be lodged in Christiania by their properly accredited agents not later than 3 p.m. on the 23rd March.

The conditions of the contract provide that if the British export duty on coal is removed or reduced payment will be reduced to a corresponding amount; if the export duty is raised the railway will pay the difference. Furthermore, a new clause in the conditions provides that, in case an import duty is placed on coal entering Norway, the duty will be paid by the railway, the contractor to effect clearance through the Customs.

The conditions of tender and the general regulations for tendering (both in Norwegian), together with a statement of the depths of water alongside at the various ports where the coals are to be delivered, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

NOTE.—In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

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**SWEDEN.**

H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor) reports that tenders are invited for the supply to the  
**Gas Coal.** Norrköping Gasworks of about 6,000 tons of Londonderry, Wearmouth, Old Pelton Main, or similar quality of coals, to be delivered c.i.f. Norrköping, in accordance with the conditions of contract, which may be seen at the office of the Gasworks. Sealed tenders, addressed "Norrköping, Stads Gasverk, Norrköping, Sweden," and marked on the outside "Anbud a Köl," will be received up to noon on the 7th March.

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**GERMANY.**

H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal) reports that tenders are invited for the supply of about 5,000 tons  
**Gas Coal.** of gas coal, for delivery, free on rail at Stolp, during the fiscal year 1906-7. Tenders, bearing the inscription "Angebot für die Kohlenlieferung der Gasanstalt," addressed to "Der Magistrat, Stolp i/Pom," will be received up to the 12th March. Conditions of contract may be seen at the "Stadt-Sekretariat, Zimmer No. 21, Stolp, Pomerania," or may be obtained there on payment of 60 pfennige (7d.)

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**NETHERLANDS.**

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) notifies the following contracts open to tender in the Netherlands :—

1. The Colonial Office at The Hague will open tenders on the 14th March next for :—  

<b>Metal Bridgework, and Light Railway Material.</b>	<i>Contract Lit. N. 12.</i> —The metal superstructure with appurtenances for three bridges for ordinary traffic. <i>Contract Lit. O. 12.</i> —Tip cars and reserve items for light railway.
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Particulars may be obtained from Mr. M. Nijhoff, 18, Nobel Street, The Hague, at a cost of 8s. 4d. for Contract Lit. N. 12, and 1s. 8d. for Contract Lit. O. 12.

2. Supply and delivery of about 2,000 tons of flame-coal for the use of the Municipal Infirmary at The Hague. Particulars are obtainable at the Town Hall, and tenders will be opened on the 1st March.

3. Supply and delivery of about 1,250 tons of English gas coal, for the Municipal Gasworks at Woerden (province of South Holland). Tenders, which will be opened on 10th March, are to be sent to the Superintendent of the Gasworks.

4. Supply of 95,000 kilos. of cast-iron tubes and 5,500 kilos. of repairing joints and syphons to the Municipality of Hulst (province of Zealand). Particulars may be obtained at the Town Hall, Hulst, at a cost of 10d. Tenders will be opened on the 12th March.

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**SWITZERLAND.**

The "Schweizerische Bundesblatt" has published the draft of a resolution respecting a concession for an electric tramway from Versoix, in the direction of Divonne-les-Bains, to the Sauverny bridge on the French frontier. The concession is to be for 60 years, and will be granted to a preliminary syndicate which includes as members the engineer, M. Jules E. Dunand, and the banker, M. Henry Boveyron, of Genf. It will be a single line of 1 m. gauge, and 5.2 kilom. in length; the estimated cost is 38,000l., of which 7,900l. will be for rolling stock.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**BELGIUM.**

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) has forwarded particulars of a notice, issued by the **Landing Stage Improvements.** Municipal Authorities of that city, inviting tenders for the restoration and improvement of the landing stage of the Asia dock.

The specification ("Cahier des Charges") relating to the contract may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the "Collège des Bourgmestre et Echevins de la ville d'Anvers," and should reach the Hôtel de Ville not later than the 15th March. A deposit of 200*l.* is required to qualify any tender.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

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**ITALY.**

In his report on the trade of South Italy, for the year 1905, H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville Rolfe, M.V.O.) points out that the estimates of the **Railway Work and Rolling Stock; Telegraph Materials.** Minister of Railways include a vote of 5,000,000 fr. (200,000*l.*) to be expended on the Naples railway station. A very considerable sum was laid out there some four years ago, but the extension was not nearly sufficient to cope with the extraordinary increase of traffic which was developing then, and has continued to develop ever since, both in mails and passengers. The Budget provides for the construction of 45 new mail vans, an addition greatly required. These are to cost 900,000 fr. (36,000*l.*). A new direct telegraph service is also to be laid on from Naples to Turin and from Naples to Reggio in Calabria at a very considerable cost of construction.

With regard to automobiles, H.M. Consul-General states that the manufacture and use of these vehicles is increasing very rapidly in Italy, and they will very soon be adopted as public carriages in many parts of the peninsula. As usual, Milan has taken the lead with two important companies for their construction, their principal object being to run their carriages in Lombardy to begin with, and eventually to place them all over Italy.

The use of automobile boats has spread very much at Naples, and is capable of indefinite development. For pleasure purposes they are much more convenient than steam, and in the summer weather they are safe enough for all practical purposes of coasting and running over to the islands, which is the main object of owners of craft of the kind. The great difficulty in Italy is the heavy cost of the petrol, owing to the duty placed upon it. This retards the development of automobilism throughout the country.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### ITALY—continued.

Mr. Neville-Rolfe is of opinion that the large increase in shipping and the prospective further increase in the port of Naples should attract the attention of dealers in marine stores, and, accordingly, he gives the

**Marine Stores.** following scale of prices at that port which may be useful:— Vacuum lubricating oil is quoted at 2s. 7d. per gallon; British and Russian from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d. per gallon; best bleached cotton waste, 1l. 19s. per cwt.; thrum waste, 1l. 18s. 6d. per cwt.; coloured cotton waste, 1l. 10s. per cwt. Tow of all kinds is a local product and could not be imported at a profit. The following goods are sold per kilo. (2½ lbs.):—Manila rope, 1 lira 50 c.; hemp rope (white), 1 lira 35 c.; hemp rope (tarred), 1 lira 20 c.; wire rope (according to quality and make), 80 c. to 1 lira 90 c.; white enamel, 4 lire 50 c.; white japan, 4 lire 50 c.; yacht spar varnish, 4 lire; boat varnish, 4 lire; extra pale crystal varnish, 4 lire 50 c.; flattening varnish, 4 lire 50 c.; British yarn, first quality, 4 lire; British yarn, second quality, 3 lire 50 c.; white zinc (in tins of 10 kilos.), 1 lira 10 c.; white lead (in tins of 10 kilos.), 65 c.; copper paint (green), 4 lire; copper paint (brown), 3 lire 50 c.; rubber valves, &c., 10 lire; canvas hose, from 60 c. to 1 lira 50 c.; yacht mops, from 2 lire 50 c. to 3 lire 50 c.; asbestos cardboard, 80 c.; mineral oils, from 50 c.; linseed oil, 1 lira 20 c.; cotton waste, 1 lira 20 c.; lubricating powders, 3 lire 50 c.; engineers' towels, each 30 c.; sailors' tarpaulins, from 15 lire each.

On the subject of water power, Mr. Neville-Rolfe states that the harnessing of this power is now the great problem of Italy. The country is immensely favoured in this respect, as the numerous torrents and cascades could, with small difficulty, be made to provide sufficient force for most of the industries in the country and save a great part of the annual coal bill of 8,000,000l. which Italy is now paying, mainly to the United Kingdom. The urgent problem is to substitute water power for steam, and this has been done on a large scale at such places as Vizzola, Terni, and Paderno. These works, already of the first importance, are capable of almost indefinite extension and may be said to have reached only the experimental stage hitherto. Technically they are of great importance, but from the industrial point of view they are only a faint promise of what may be accomplished.—(*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,530.*)

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" (Rome) of 24th February contains copy of a Law authorising the Italian Electric Tramways Union to construct and work an electric tramway in Genoa, between San Martino d'Albaro and Borgoratti.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY-BOHEMIA.**

According to the "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin), the town of Bubentsch, Bohemia, has decided to establish water works, which are to be completed by the end of May, 1907.

**Water Works.**

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell), has forwarded a copy of Circular No. 299, inviting tenders for the supply of miscellaneous articles (including stationery, office supplies and furniture, various metal manufactures, harness, canvas belting, &c. &c.), to the Isthmian Canal Commission. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at the office of the General Purchasing Officer, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington D.C., until 10.30 a.m. on the 3rd March. A copy of the specifications may be inspected at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., although, as before, the time allowed only admits of firms tendering who have arrangements with their agents which can be availed of by cable.

According to the "American Wool and Cotton Reporter," the demand in the United States for fancy blankets has recently been revived by a novelty imported from Germany, viz., a fancy cotton blanket, so well put together in texture and in colourings and finish, that the fabric to the eye and feel is far more attractive than any of the so-called genuine Indian blankets ever placed on the market. From the manner in which buyers are taking these blankets, says the "Reporter," it will be only a short time before the Germans will be unable to meet further demands, as not only are they sold for decorative purposes, but the cutting-up trades are beginning to buy with an unusually free hand.

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**MEXICO.**

The Mexican "Diario Oficial," of 25th January, contains notices of applications by (1) Señor J. Antonio Pliego Pérez for the appropriation of 1,000 litres of water per second from the river Sinaloa, State of Sinaloa, for metal refining purposes; (2) Señor Manuel Calero for the appropriation of 10,000 litres per second from the river Ixmiquilpan or Tula, State of Hidalgo; and (3) Mr. H. McLean for an appropriation from the River Grande Misantla, State of Veracruz, for the production of motive power.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**CHILE.**

The Chilean "Diario Oficial" of 12th January contains copy of a Decree authorising the **Tabolan Electrical Plant.** Electric Co. to supply San Francisco de Limache, and Limache, with electric light, heat and motive power.

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**EXHIBITIONS.****RUSSIA.**

In a memorandum on the agricultural exhibition annually held at Rostov-on-Don, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. A. F. H. Medhurst) reports that at the 1905 exhibition the chief exhibits were those of steam threshing sets, and he calls attention to the efforts of Austrian and German firms to obtain a share of this trade, hitherto practically monopolised by British firms. Reapers and mowers were exhibited from America, and copies of the same by Russian makers. Dairy farm utensils from Germany and Sweden attracted attention. Baths and washing utensils of enamelled metal were shown by Maltzev and deserve attention, as hitherto these articles were exclusively supplied from the United Kingdom. Mr. Medhurst suggests the advisability of intending exhibitors securing the services of a local agent with a knowledge of the language and country.

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**ITALY.**

With reference to previous notices which have appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" on the subject **Milan Exhibition.** of the forthcoming International Exhibition at Milan, it is to be noted that an Order in Council was published in the "London Gazette," of 20th February, applying (by virtue of the Patents Act of 1886) to exhibits at Milan the provisions of Sections 39 and 57 of the Patent, Designs and Trade Marks Act of 1883, which afford, under certain stated conditions, protection to an unpatented invention or design shown at an industrial or international exhibition certified as such by the Board of Trade, and relieving exhibitors from the conditions laid down in that Act of giving notice to the Comptroller of Patents of their intention to exhibit.

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## INTERNATIONAL SUGAR COMMISSION.—POSTPONE- MENT OF NEXT MEETING.

The Board of Trade have been informed that the next meeting of the International Sugar Commission has been postponed from the 12th March to the 14th May next.

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## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**Odessa.**—The following particulars respecting the present state of affairs at Odessa are extracted from a recent report to the Foreign Office by H.M. Consul-General at that port (Mr. C. S. Smith) :—

“The revolutionaries desired to celebrate the anniversary of the 9th/22nd January, 1905, with a general strike and processions, and on the 19th January they circulated many fly-leaves calling on the people to leave their work. But the Governor-General issued a strong appeal to the contrary, and no strike took place. The revolutionary party are weakened by the arrest of many of the leaders, and Odessa workmen as a body are only anxious to continue at work. Through last year's troubles they are poorer than ever. They well recognise the precarious state of manufacturing industry in Odessa, and know well that in many cases the first result of an untimely strike would be the closing of the factory.

“Grain is being exported with some energy, but manufacturing businesses are in a bad way—some are working but half time, others have stopped. Of the latter the most important are the Imperial Russian jute factory, which employs 1,300 hands, of which 1,000 are women and girls, and Messrs. Hoehn, who employ about 2,000 hands. M. Hoehn explained to his men that he could not continue, because all his working capital was locked up in 100,000 ploughs which he could not sell.”

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## SUGAR INDUSTRY OF BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, PERU, AND MAURITIUS.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from His Majesty's Consular Officers and the Correspondents of the Branch, information in regard to sugar estates, with details of the power used and process of manufacture, in Brazil, the Argentine Republic, Peru, and Mauritius.

This information is available for purposes of reference by British merchants and traders interested, at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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## BRITISH AND GERMAN COAL AT HAMBURG IN 1905.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, the following memorandum, compiled from the annual report of one of the leading coal-importing firms at Hamburg, by H.M. Consul-General at that port (Sir W. Ward, C.V.O.), on the import trade of British and German (Westphalian) coal into Hamburg (Free Port and other parts) during the year 1905:—

“It will be seen from the subjoined figures that the aggregate importations of British and Westphalian coal into Hamburg were 650,000 tons greater than in the year 1904; but that this excess was entirely due to increased importations of British coal; for those of Westphalian coal were 10,000 tons less than in the previous year:—

Year.	Importations of Coal into Hamburg.		
	British.	German. (Westphalian).	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1901 ... ..	2,691,790	1,724,000	4,415,790
1902 ... ..	2,792,822	1,773,000	4,565,822
1903 ... ..	3,067,400	1,874,300	4,941,700
1904 ... ..	2,953,711	1,986,000	4,939,711
1905 ... ..	3,600,000	1,976,000	5,576,000

(NOTE.—The importations of Silesian as well as of American coal to Hamburg in 1905 were quite trifling).

“The increased importations of British coal were partly due to the strike of the coal miners in Westphalia in the beginning of last year, which forced German consumers to look to the United Kingdom for their coal supplies.

“The expectations, on the other hand, which were entertained here that the Westphalian strike would give the coal market a firmer tone were not realised, in consequence of many dealers having contracted for much larger quantities than were actually wanted for consumption.

“A fresh impulse was, however, given to the coal import trade during the autumn, in consequence of the marked revival of most branches of German industry. Towards the middle of October the state of the market was, moreover, affected by the great want of railway trucks in the Ruhr district for the transport of the Westphalian product, which rendered it necessary to import larger quantities of British coal. At the end of last year the demand for British coal was an exceedingly active one; and there can be no doubt that the same will continue, at all events, for some time to come.

“As regards the Westphalian coal markets, the most important event of last year was the general strike of the miners in that dis-

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*British and German Coal at Hamburg in 1905.*

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trict, which began in the first part of January and lasted till the middle of February. This strike, it is stated, had the effect, that the January output of the Ruhr district amounted only to 2,697,000 tons of coal instead of 6,000,000 tons; and also in February the output was considerably less than the amount last mentioned.

"This event, and the want of railway trucks in Westphalia for the conveyance of coal to the interior, as well as to the seaports of Germany, was, as already mentioned above, the main cause of the decrease in the importation of Westphalian coal to Hamburg last year.

"The prospects for the present year for the Westphalian coal trade, as well as for the import trade of British coal into Germany are, however, considered to be very favourable.

"All branches of German manufacturing industry, especially iron industry, shipbuilding, &c., are fully occupied, and are stated to be supplied with orders for a long time to come.

"All over Germany, different kinds of public works are being taken in hand, and at Hamburg alone, the extensive works for improving the existing railway arrangements, the construction of new local electrical lines, of a tunnel under the Elbe, of the new shipbuilding yard of the 'Vulcan' Company, &c., will call for large shiploads of coal.

"It may be here added, that the new dock at Hamburg for British colliers has been considerably enlarged, so that the number of unloading berths for the vessels is now greater than before.

"The want of proper communication, however, between the dock and the rest of the harbour, as well as the insufficient lighting of the same, which renders traffic after dark dangerous, is unsatisfactory, and has already formed the subject of complaint by British shipmasters to the Hamburg authorities."

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# TRADE OF FRENCH GUINEA, FRENCH CONGO, REUNION, AND SOMALI COAST.

The following particulars relating to the trade of French Guinea, French Congo, Réunion, and the Somali Coast during 1904, as compared with the preceding year, are extracted from a recent issue of the "Feuille de Renseignements," the official organ of the French Colonial Office:—

## French Guinea.

				1903.		1904.	
				Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
<b>Imports—</b>							
Textiles ...	...	...	...	7,749,000	...	5,785,000	...
Metal manufactures ...	...	...	...	2,297,000	...	1,918,000	...
Other ...	...	...	...	7,897,000	...	7,099,000	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	17,943,000	...	14,802,000
<b>Exports—</b>							
Indiarubber ...	...	...	...	11,389,000	...	10,863,000	...
Cattle ...	...	...	...	805,500	...	851,200	...
Other ...	...	...	...	1,896,500	...	1,960,800	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	14,091,000	...	13,675,000

## French Congo.

				1903.		1904.	
				Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
<b>Imports—</b>							
Textiles ...	...	...	...	1,608,000	...	2,832,000	...
Metal manufactures ...	...	...	...	865,000	...	1,030,000	...
Other ...	...	...	...	4,505,000	...	5,196,000	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	6,978,000	...	9,058,000
<b>Exports—</b>							
Indiarubber ...	...	...	...	3,370,000	...	5,374,000	...
Ivory ...	...	...	...	3,742,000	...	3,703,000	...
Other ...	...	...	...	2,826,000	...	3,058,000	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	9,938,000	...	12,135,000

## Réunion.

				1903.		1904.	
				Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
<b>Imports—</b>							
Rice ...	...	...	...	5,594,000	...	6,483,000	...
Metal manufactures ...	...	...	...	2,099,000	...	1,404,000	...
Wine ...	...	...	...	1,042,000	...	1,278,000	...
Textiles ...	...	...	...	2,452,000	...	1,225,000	...
Fish, preserved ...	...	...	...	1,032,000	...	1,101,000	...
Other ...	...	...	...	9,290,000	...	7,815,000	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	21,509,000	...	19,306,000
<b>Exports—</b>							
Sugar ...	...	...	...	11,771,000	...	7,673,000	...
Vanilla ...	...	...	...	1,291,000	...	1,536,000	...
Other ...	...	...	...	6,130,000	...	4,374,000	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...	19,192,000	...	13,583,000

*Trade of French Guinea, French Congo, Réunion, and Somali Coast.***Somali Coast.**

				1903.		1904.	
				Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
<b>Imports—</b>							
Textiles	...	...	...	3,065,000	...	4,523,000	...
Metal manufactures	...	...	...	619,000	...	2,628,000	...
Other	...	...	...	3,846,000	...	5,515,000	...
Total	...	...	...	...	7,530,000	...	12,666,000
<b>Exports—</b>							
Coffee	...	...	...	2,003,000	...	2,600,000	...
Skins	...	...	...	1,356,000	...	2,200,000	...
Other	...	...	...	7,092,000	...	11,698,000	...
Total	...	...	...	...	10,451,000	...	16,498,000

**NEW EUROPEAN CUSTOMS TARIFFS.**

Attention is directed to the following notices supplementing the information given at pages 360–362 of the “Journal” for the 22nd February:—

**ITALY.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a telegram from H.M. Ambassador at Rome to the effect that the alterations in the Italian Customs Tariff consequent on the recent Commercial Treaty between Germany and Italy will come into force to-day, 1st March, and not on the 31st March as stated in last week’s “Journal.” Details of the alterations in question were published in the “Journal” for the 3rd August, 1905, and the five succeeding issues.

**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a telegram from His Majesty’s Ambassador at Vienna to the effect that the Austro-Hungarian Customs Authorities have been instructed that goods delivered within business hours on the 28th February and declared ready for Customs treatment are to be dutiable under the old tariff, even though they should be cleared on a later date. Goods so declared, however, will not be dealt with under the old tariff unless cleared by the 15th March at latest.

## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

### SPAIN.

Referring to the notice which appeared at p. 311 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 15th February, on the subject of a Bill for the revision of the Spanish Customs Tariff (which was, by an oversight, stated to have been enacted, whereas, as a matter of fact, it had been passed only by the Spanish Congress), the Board of Trade are now in receipt of information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that the Bill in question has been referred to the Senate. A translation of the modifications proposed to be introduced into the measure by the Senate Committee, together with a translation of the Bill as passed by the Congress, may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The following further list of the general duties under the Import Tariff of British India is in continuation of Tariff Valuations. that published on pp. 362-64 of last week's "Journal":—

#### SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued*.

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.— <i>contd.</i>		R a.	
31	Earth, common clay, and sand... ..	...	...	Free.
32	Earthenware (except earthenware piping, for which see No. 23), china, china clay, porcelain, and imitation or false coral.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
33	Fans of all kinds, except common palm-leaf fans, which are free.	...	"	"
34	Fireworks, all sorts, including fulminating powder.	...	"	"
35	Flax, and articles made of flax, including linen-thread.	...	"	"
36	Furniture, tackle, and apparel, not otherwise described, for steam, sailing, rowing and other vessels.	...	"	"
37	Gums, gum-resins, and articles made of gum or gum-resin—			
	Copal ... ..	...	"	"
	Cutch and gambier ... ..	cwt.	20 0	"
	Gamboge ... ..	lb.	1 8	"
	Gum ammoniac ... ..	cwt.	10 0	"
	" Arabic ... ..	...	13 0	"
	" bdellium ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	" Benjamin, ras ... ..	cwt.	20 0	"
	" " cowrie ... ..	"	70 0	"
	" bysabol (coarse myrrh) ... ..	"	23 0	"
	" olibanum or frankincense ... ..	...	...	Free.
	" Persian (false) ... ..	cwt.	10 8	5 %
	Myrrh ... ..	"	40 0	"
	Rosin ... ..	"	9 0	"
	All other sorts of gums, gum-resins, and articles made of gum or gum-resin, including caoutchouc and gutta-percha.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per.	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.— <i>contd.</i>			
38	Hemp, including Manila hemp, and articles made therefrom.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
39	Hides and skins (except raw or salted hides and skins, which are free), including parchment and vellum, gold beaters' skins, and all other descriptions of hides or skins.	...	"	"
40	Horn ... ..	...	...	Free.
41	" articles made of, not otherwise described Instruments, apparatus and appliances, and parts thereof—	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
	Computing, dental, distilling, diving, drawing, educational, electric, electric lighting, galvanic, measuring, musical, optical, philosophical, phonographic, photographic (including materials for photography), scientific, surgical, surveying, telegraphic, telephonic, typewriters, and all other sorts, <i>except</i> telegraphic instruments and apparatus, and parts thereof, when imported by or under the orders of a railway company, and any instruments, apparatus, and appliances when imported by a passenger as part of his personal baggage, and in actual use by him in the exercise of his profession or calling, which are free. Military band instruments (other than stringed instruments), imported by a regiment of His Majesty's regular forces serving in India, and certified by the officer commanding the regiment to be for the <i>bona fide</i> exclusive use of the regimental band, and the following accessories thereto, are also free of duty :—	...	"	"
	Silver buckles for drums.			
	Silver buttons for drums.			
	Green broadcloth for drums.			
	Green silk ribbon for drums.			
	Ropes for drums.			
	Bags for bagpipes.			
	Cord for bagpipes.			
	Drones for bagpipes.			
	Ribbons for bagpipes.			
	Pipe tassels for bagpipes.			
	Cardholders.			
	Carriages (brown or black).			
	Crooks.			
	Cases (leather or wooden).			
	Fingertops.			
	Mouthpieces and caps therefor.			
	Reeds.			
	Springs.			
	Snares.			
	Valve tops and needles.			

# Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

## BRITISH INDIA—continued.

### SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—continued.

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	OTHER ARTICLES, &c.— <i>contd.</i>		R. a.	
42	Ivory and ivory ware— Unmanufactured—			
	Elephants' grinders ... ..	cwt.	350 0	5 %
	" tusks (other than hollows, centres and points) each exceeding 20 lbs. in weight, and hollows, centres, and points each weighing 10 lbs. and over.	"	750 0	"
	Elephants' tusks (other than hollows, centres, and points) not less than 10 lbs. and not exceeding 20 lbs. each, and hollows, centres, and points each weighing less than 10 lbs.	"	650 0	"
	Elephants' tusks, each less than 10 lbs. (other than hollows, centres, and points).	"	500 0	"
	Sea-cow or moye teeth, each not less than 4 lbs.	"	200 0	"
	Sea-cow or moye teeth, each not less than 3 lbs. and under 4 lbs.	"	185 0	"
	Sea-cow or moye teeth, each less than 3 lbs.	"	135 0	"
	All other sorts, manufactured and unmanufactured.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
43	Jewellery and jewels, including plate and other manufactures of gold and silver—			
	Silver-ware, plain, other than European...	tola	1 0	"
	" embossed or chased, other than European.	"	1 4	"
	All other sorts, except precious stones and pearls, unset, which are free.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
44	Jute—			
	Raw ... ..	...	...	Free.
	Articles made of, except secondhand or used gunny bags, which are free.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 % <sub>10</sub>
45	Leather, and articles made of leather, including boots and shoes, harness and saddlery, except saddlery of a military pattern imported by an officer of His Majesty's regular forces and forming part of the equipment with which he is required to supply himself under Army Regulations, which is free.	...	"	"
46	Malt ... ..	...	"	"
47	Manures of all kinds, including animal bones	...	...	Free.
48	Oilcake, also bran, fodder, and cattle food of all kinds.	...	...	"
49	Oil-cloth and floor-cloth, including lincresta, linoleum and tarpaulins.	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
50	Paints, colours, painters' materials, and compositions for application to leather, wood, and metals—			
	Lead, red, dry ... ..	cwt.	14 0	"
	" white, dry ... ..	"	16 0	"
	Ochre, other than European, all colours ...	"	2 4	"
	Paints, composition ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	patent driers ... ..	...	"	"

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—*continued.*

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	<b>OTHER ARTICLES, &amp;c.—<i>contd.</i></b>		<b>R. a.</b>	
	Paints, colours, &c.— <i>contd.</i>			
	Turpentine ... ..	imp. gal.	3 0	5 %
	Verdigris ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Vermilion, Canton ... ..	box of 90 bundles.	100 0	"
	Zinc, white, dry ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	All other sorts, including glue and putty...	...	"	"
51	Paper, pasteboard, millboard, and cardboard of all kinds, including ruled or printed forms and account and manuscript books, labels, advertising circulars, sheet or card almanacks and calendars, Christmas, Easter, and other cards, including cards in booklet form, and including also waste paper and old newspapers for packing, but excluding trade catalogues and advertising circulars imported by packet, book or parcel post, which are free.	...	"	"
52	Paper, articles made of paper and papier-mâché	...	"	"
	Perfumery—			
	Gowla, husked and unhusked ... ..	cwt.	36 0	"
	Kapurkachri (zedoary) ... ..	"	17 8	"
	Patch leaves (patchouli) ... ..	"	12 0	"
	Rose-flowers, dried ... ..	"	15 8	"
	Rose-water ... ..	imp. gal.	2 0	"
	All other sorts, except perfumed spirit* ...	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
53	Pitch, tar and dammer—			
	Bitumen ... ..	...	"	"
	Dammer ... ..	cwt.	5 0	"
	Pitch, American and European ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	" coal ... ..	cwt.	3 8	"
	Tar, American and European ... ..	"	6 8	"
	" coal ... ..	"	4 0	"
	" mineral ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
54	Plants and bulbs, living, also dried for herbaria	...	...	Frec.
55	Precious stones and pearls, unset (including the stones generically known as Cambay stones, such as agates, cornelians, and onyx).	...	...	"
56	Pulp of wood, straw, rags, paper, and other materials.	...	...	"
57	Printing and lithographic material, namely, presses, type, ink, brass rules, composing sticks, chases, imposing tables, and lithographic stones, and stereo-blocks, but not including paper.	...	...	"
58	Rags ... ..	...	...	"
59	Racks for the withering of tea leaf ... ..	...	...	"

\* The duty on perfumed spirit, under Schedule III., is fixed at Rs. 11 per Imperial gallon or 6 quart bottles.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.****SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—continued.**

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty.
	<b>OTHER ARTICLES, &amp;c.—contd.</b>		<b>R. a.</b>	
60	Railway material for permanent-way and rolling-stock, namely, cylinders, girders, and other material for bridges, rails, sleepers, bearing and fish-plates, fish-bolts, chairs, spikes, crossings, sleeper fastenings, switches, interlocking apparatus, brake gear, couplings and springs, signals, turn-tables, weigh-bridges, engines, tenders, carriages, waggons, traversers, trollies, trucks, and component parts thereof; also the following articles when imported by or under the orders of a railway company, namely, cranes, water cranes, water tanks, and standards, wire and other materials for fencing :— Provided that for the purpose of this exemption "railway" means a line of railway subject to the provisions of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, and includes a railway constructed in a Native State under the suzerainty of His Majesty, and also such tramways as the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the "Gazette of India," specifically include therein ... ..	...	...	Free.
61	Seeds— Castor ... .. Cummin ... .. " black ... .. Linseed ... .. Methi ... .. Mustard, rape or sarson ... .. Poppy ... .. Quince, bihidana ... .. Til or jinjili ... .. All other sorts ... ..	cwt. " " cwt. " " " " " " ...	5 0 11 8 <i>ad val.</i> 5 0 4 0 6 4 5 8 64 0 7 0 <i>ad val.</i>	5 % " " " " " " " " "
62	Shells and cowries— Chanks—large shells, for cameos ... .. " white, live... .. " dead ... .. Cowras ... .. Cowries, bazar, common ... .. " yellow, superior quality ... .. " Maldive ... .. " sankhla ... .. Mother-of-pearl, nacre ... .. Nakhla ... .. Tortoiseshell ... .. " nakh ... .. All other sorts, including articles made of shell, not otherwise described.	... ... ... ... cwt. ... ... ... cwt. lb. ... ... ...	" " " " 3 12 5 0 5 8 51 0 ... 98 0 6 0 4 0 <i>ad val.</i>	" " " " " " " " Free. 5 % " " "
63	Ships and other vessels for inland and harbour navigation, including steamers, launches, boats and barges, imported entire or in sections.	...	...	Free.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***BRITISH INDIA—continued.****SCHEDULE IV.—IMPORT TARIFF—continued.**

No.	Names of Articles.	Per	Tariff Valuation.	Duty
	<b>OTHER ARTICLES, &amp;c.—contd.</b>		<b>R. a.</b>	
64	Silk, and articles made of silk—			
	Bokhara ... ..	lb.	9 0	5 %
	Floss ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Piece-goods ... ..	...	"	"
	Sewing thread, China ... ..	...	"	"
	Raw silk—Cháharam, Cochin-China, and Yellow Shanghai.	lb.	5 4	"
	Mathow ... ..	"	2 12	"
	Other kinds of China ... ..	"	6 12	"
	Waste and Kachra ... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
	Panjam ... ..	lb.	2 2	"
	Persian ... ..	"	5 0	"
	Siam ... ..	"	2 0	"
	All other sorts, including cocoons...	...	<i>ad val.</i>	"
65	Soap ... ..	...	"	"
66	Specimens illustrative of Natural Science, including also antique coins and medals.	...	...	Free.
67	Stationery, excluding paper (for which see No. 51).	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
68	Stone and marble, and articles made of stone and marble.	...	"	"
69	Tallow and grease, including stearine...	...	"	"
70	Tea-chests of metal or wood, whether imported entire or in sections, provided that the Customs Collector is satisfied that they are imported for the purpose of the packing of tea for transport in bulk.	...	...	Free.
71	Textile fabrics not otherwise described ...	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
72	Toilet requisites not otherwise described ...	...	"	"
73	Toys, including toy-books, and requisites for all games.	...	"	"
74	Umbrellas, parasols, and sunshades of all kinds	...	"	"
75	Walking sticks and sticks for umbrellas, parasols, and sunshades of all kinds, mounted and unmounted, driving, riding, and other whips, fishing rods and lines.	...	"	"
76	Wood and timber (except fire-wood, which is free), and articles made of wood not otherwise described.	...	"	"
77	Wool, raw... ..	...	...	Free.
	" articles made of, including felt... ..	...	<i>ad val.</i>	5 %
78	All other articles, manufactured or unmanufactured, not described in this schedule.	...	"	"

See pp. 423-4 for a statement of the Tariff Valuations of certain descriptions of cotton goods made in British Indian mills for the assessment of Excise duties, which came into force on the 1st January.

**Valuations of  
Cotton Textiles  
for Excise.**

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Board of Trade have received copies of Supplements (Nos. 55 and 56) to the Customs Tariff Guide, dated 15th and 21st December, 1905, respectively, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given in the Supplements:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
<b>SUPPLEMENT NO. 55.</b>	
Agar agar—a preparation from sea-weed—	
As oilmen's stores, n.e.i. ... ..	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
*Boxed robes : Only such portion of the robe as is shaped or is embroidered, designed, or worked in pattern for a single robe—	
As apparel and attire, and articles, n.e.i. ... ..	25 % „
Balance—to be charged according to material.	
<i>Note.</i> —When the invoice price shows one price for the whole, the value is to be proportioned to the various materials, and duty charged at respective tariff rates.	
Moulds for tyre making—	
As manufactures of metals, n.e.i. ... ..	20 % „
Paper : Single letter, ruled, headed with name of firm—	
As manufactured stationery... ..	25 % „
Single letter, ruled only, continuation of above—	
As writing-paper ... ..	15 % „
Powder, granite, being ground stone—	
As other articles ... ..	Free.
<b>SUPPLEMENT NO. 56.</b>	
Boxes, silver-mounted hat-pin—	
As jewellery ... ..	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Cases—gun, whether the case contains a gun or not—	
As other arms ... ..	15 % „
Cement, plutonic—	
As cement, n.e.i. ... ..	20 % „
Clog, a metal frame covered with leather, forming a stirrup—	
As minor articles for harness, &c. ... ..	Free.
Rams, hydraulic—	
As machinery, n.e.i. (as pumps) ... ..	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>
Salts of titanium—	
As drugs ... ..	Free.
Tape-glass—	
As paper ... ..	Free.
Valves for anhydrous ammonia cylinders—	
As manufactures of metals ... ..	Free.

\* Revised decision.

A Customs Notice, dated 4th December, 1905, has also been received, notifying that “kapok seed oil” shall be charged the same duty as cotton seed oil (viz., 2s. per gall.) on importation into the Commonwealth.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—continued.**

A copy of the "Australian Commonwealth Gazette" for 13th January last has been received containing a  
**Drawbacks:** Customs Notice, dated 8th January, 1906,  
**Sugar.** notifying that in accordance with Customs Regulation No. 131, drawback of duty will be allowed on the undermentioned imported materials used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth upon the exportation of such manufactured articles, under certain specified conditions:—

Sugar used in the manufacture of chocolate, according to the following proportion: 15 lbs. of sugar per every 100 lbs. of chocolate exported.

With reference to the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 28th December last respecting the free importation, under a By-Law of 18th October, 1905, of "shoulder pads for apparel" into the Commonwealth, the Board of Trade have now received a Customs Notice, dated 8th January, 1906, which cancels the above-mentioned By-Law of 18th October last—with the effect that a duty of 25 per cent. *ad valorem* will now be imposed on such shoulder pads when imported into the Commonwealth.

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**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a Customs notice, dated 24th January, 1906, by which it is provided that, in accordance with the provisions of the Additional Taxation Acts of 1904 and 1905, an Excise permit (75 E) will be required for the importation into the Colony, by sea or land, of Colonial or foreign spirits from or through any Colony or Territory within the Customs Union.

Any Colonial or foreign spirits so imported, and not being covered by the prescribed permit (75 E) will be liable to forfeiture, and the person importing the spirits, or his authorised agent, shall be liable to the penalties provided.

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**RUSSIA—FINLAND.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Consul at Helsingfors, reporting that the privileges of the town of Tammerfors in the matter of Customs duties have been abolished from the 1st January last. Goods imported into this town, therefore, are now dutiable in accordance with the Customs tariff of the Grand Duchy of Finland.

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## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### NORWAY—{ **SPAIN, PORTUGAL.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at pp. 70-72 of the "Journal" for the 11th January last giving particulars of the "minimum" import duties which will be applied in Norway to various articles on the expiration of the existing treaties between Norway on the one hand and Switzerland, Spain and Portugal on the other, it has now been ascertained that the Norwegian Government has not denounced the Treaties with Spain and Portugal.

### FRANCE—TUNIS.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Convention agreed upon between the "Compagnie des Ports Tunis, Sousse, et Sfax" and the Tunisian Government, annexed to which are revised tariffs of the various dues leviable at those ports for pilotage, accommodation, warehousing, embarkation and disembarkation of goods and passengers, &c., &c. These tariffs, which came into force on the 1st January last, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### PORTUGAL.

The Portuguese "Diario do Governo" for the 13th February contains a Royal Decree, dated 8th February, providing that postal packages received in Portugal and addressed to the officers or crew of foreign warships anchored in Portuguese ports, shall be delivered on board free of all Customs duty or postal taxes, provided that the same treatment is accorded to Portuguese warships at ports of the country from which the parcels are despatched.

### SPAIN.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a statement showing the rates of the Government tax and harbour dues leviable at the port of Huelva from the 1st of January, 1906, on merchandise loaded or discharged and on passengers. This statement may be seen by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### GREECE.

With reference to the notice published at p. 409 of the "Journal" for the 30th November last, in which it was stated that Greek Communes are authorised to levy certain octroi duties on imported goods at rates not exceeding 3 per cent. upon valuations fixed by Royal

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

Decree, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Athens reporting that by a Greek Law of 1st September last the maximum limit of octroi duties upon imported goods has been raised from 3 to 4 per cent. in cases where the resources of a Commune do not suffice to cover the expenses of communal administration and education.

#### ROUMANIA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Roumanian Law modifying the new "General" Customs Tariff of Roumania\* in certain particulars. The following statement shows the articles affected, together with the "general" rates of duty thereon as originally fixed and as modified by the present Law, and, where these apply, the "conventional" rates established by the new Treaties which Roumania has concluded with the United Kingdom and Germany:—

[NOTE.—1 *leu* (100 *bani*)=9·6*d.*; kilog.=2·2046 lbs. avoirdupois. Additions to the text of the "General" tariff made by the present Law are printed in *italic type*.]

No. in New Tariff.	Classification in New Tariff.	Rates of Duty under the "General" Tariff.		Conventional Rates under British and German Treaties.
		As originally fixed.	As modified by the present Law.	
		Lei. b.	Lei. b.	Lei. b.
1	Horses— Stallions and geldings— (a) Over five years of age (b) Under " " " Mares ... .. Foals, unweaned ...	Head 150·00 " 100·00 " 50·00 " 1·00	Head 50·00 " 30·00 " 15·00 [No change]	
110	Woollen hosiery— (a) Gloves ... .. (b) Stockings and socks, flannels, drawers, vests, caps, hoods, and all knitted or netted articles of wool, plain, not combined with other materials— If the tissue weighs persquare metre— More than 700 grammes From 700 to 400 grammes From 400 to 200 grammes Less than 200 grammes	100 kgs. 400·00 " 250·00 " 300·00 " 350·00 " 400·00	[No change] 100 kgs. 350·00	100 kgs. 400·00 G " 300·00 G
228	Wine and must and decoctions of grapes of all kinds	[No change in the rates of duty]		

G=German Treaty.

\* This Tariff, as modified by treaties, comes into force to-day, 1st March. See the notice at p. 320 of the "Journal" for the 15th February.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ROUMANIA**—*continued.*

No. in New Tariff.	Classification in New Tariff.	Rates of Duty under the "General" Tariff.		Conventional Rates under British and German Treaties.
		As originally fixed.	As modified by the present Law.	
		Lei. b.	Lei. b.	Lei. b.
234	Fresh fruit—			
	(a) All kinds except grapes ... ..	100 kilogs. 15·00	[No change]	
	(b) Grapes for the table, in baskets or boxes, weighing up to 10 kilogs. ... ..	" 25·00	100 kilogs. 25·00	
	(c) Grapes, crushed or uncrushed, or musted, in any kind of receptacle exceeding 10 kilogs. in weight ...		" 50·00	
333	Cotton yarn, single, unbleached, undyed, measuring per kilog.—			
	31,000 metres or less ...	" 35·00	"	100 kilogs. 5·00* B
	From 31,000 to 51,000 metres ... ..	" 44·00		
	From 51,000 to 81,000 metres ... ..	" 55·00		
	From 81,000 to 121,000 metres ... ..	" 65·00		
	From 121,000 to 201,000 metres ... ..	" 100·00	"	
	From 201,000 to 281,000 metres ... ..	" 150·00		
	Above 281,000 metres ...	" 200·00		
334	The same, bleached... ..	{ Duty on unbleached according to class + 20 per cent.	" 8·00	" 8·00* B
335	The same, dyed or printed...	{ Duty on unbleached according to class + 50 per cent.	" 18·00	" 18·00* B
336	The same, mercerised ...	{ Duty on unbleached according to class + 60 per cent.	" 20·00	" 20·00* B
341	Cotton yarn on rollers or beams, with the warp ready for placing on the loom ...	{ Duty on the yarns of which composed + 6 lei per 100 kilogs.	{ Duty on the yarns of which composed + 1 leu per 100 kilogs.	

B=British Treaty.

\* NOTE.—The rates of duty originally established by the Roumanian "General" tariff on single cotton yarns were considerably reduced as a result of the Anglo-Roumanian Treaty of October last, as will be seen on reference to the notice in the "Journal" for the 4th January and 8th February. It has now been arranged that the new rates stated above, which represent considerable further reductions, shall be consolidated in the tariff schedule annexed to the Anglo-Roumanian Treaty.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ROUMANIA**—*continued.*

No. in New Tariff.	Classification in New Tariff.	Rates of Duty under the "General" Tariff		Conventional Rates under British and German Treaties.
		As originally fixed.	As modified by the present Law.	
		Lei. b.	Lei. b.	Lei. b.
Ad 342	<i>Note.</i> —[The Law of 28th May, 1891, is abrogated].			
394 (c)	Artificial flowers, leaves, &c., of wax, or of tissues of any kind, even combined with feathers, iron wire and other materials ... ..	Kilog. 15·00	[No change]	
405	Tissues of every kind, for special purposes, such as curtains, covers, draperies, fichus— (a) Not embroidered and not hemmed ... (b) Hemmed or embroidered by machine ...	{ Duty on the tissue + 30 per cent. Double the duty on the tissue }	{ [No change] [No change] }	{ Duty on the tissue + 30 per cent. G. Double the duty on the tissue, G. }
Ad 498	<i>Note.</i> —[Busts and marble statues in single specimens constituting works of art, are exempt from duty with the authorisation of the Minister of Finance].			
579	<i>Note.</i> —Coal intended for the production of gas for lighting towns ... ..	Not specified	100 kilogs. 0·05	
641	Ploughs, harrows, rollers, light ploughs, scarifiers, ploughshares, parts of harrows, and other agricultural appliances ... ..	100 kilogs. 4·00	" 2·00*	100 kls. 4·00* G
Ad 689	<i>Note.</i> —[Busts and art statues, in single specimens, are exempt from duty with the authorisation of the Minister of Finance].			
743	Portable engines and agricultural machines of all kinds, of whatever material composed ... ..	" 4·00	" 2·00*	" 4·00* G
769	Toys of wood, lead, or stone, or of a combination of these materials with one another, or with iron, painted, but not combined with other materials, and not mechanical ... ..	" 40·00	" 50·00	" 50·00 G
789	Carbonates and bi-carbonates, &c., &c., and all other chemical products not specially mentioned in the Tariff ... ..	" 5·00	[No change]	

G=German Treaty.

\* It will be observed that the amended "general" rate for these articles is lower than the "conventional" rate.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**ROUMANIA**—*continued.*

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that the prohibition against the importation into Roumania of fruits and vegetables from the Persian Gulf has been withdrawn.

**Importation of Fruits and Vegetables from the Persian Gulf permitted.**

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY-SERVIA.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Ministerial Decree prohibiting the importation into or transport through Austria-Hungary of live-stock and meat from Servia.

**Importation of Live-Stock and Meat from Servia prohibited.**

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**CHILE.**

The Chilean "Diario Oficial" for the 26th December, 1905, contains the text of a law fixing the Customs duty on small bedsteads (cots) of brass, iron, or iron combined with brass, or of any other metal, imported into Chile, at 35 per cent.

**Import Duty on Small Bedsteads (Cots) of Metal.**

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**PERU-COLOMBIA.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a *modus vivendi*, dated 12th September, 1905, between Peru and Colombia, providing for the maintenance of the *status quo* in the territories in dispute between the two countries pending the decision of the controversy under the Treaty of Arbitration.

**Customs Arrangements in Disputed Territories.**

The two Governments agree that import and export duties in accordance with the Peruvian Tariff shall be levied at the Cotuhé Custom house; rubber of any kind being liable to an export duty of 30 cents, Peruvian currency, per kilogramme. The revenue from this source is to be equally divided between the two Governments. Merchandise passing through Iquitos *en route* for Cotuhé will pay duty at the latter, and not at the former place.

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**ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.**

H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres calls attention to the fact that the sale of sweets containing colouring matter derived from coal tar is prohibited in that city.

**Prohibition of Sale in Buenos Ayres of Sweets containing Aniline Colouring Matter.**

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## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### RUSSIA.

Referring to the notice on p. 77 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th October last, the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) reports on the authority of the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," that the Ministry of Ways has ordered from French wagon-building works about 3,000 trucks and half-trucks of a special system, applied on the French railways, able to bear over 2,000 pounds (32 tons) per truck. The new rolling stock is destined for the Ekaterininski railway to reinforce its carriage capacity, mostly for coal and ores.

### NORWAY.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) reporting that a Society of Norwegian Shipowners has recently been formed with a view to arranging a scale of minimum freights for Norwegian sailing vessels mainly engaged in the timber, coal, and ice trades between Norway and the United Kingdom, Holland, Belgium, Germany and France.

Hopes are expressed that all Norwegian wooden sailing ship owners, and also some iron and steel sailing ship owners, will adhere to the scale, without however such action being compulsory. It is intended to invite the co-operation of Norwegian steamship owners and also of owners of Danish, Swedish, and Finnish vessels.

It is probable that the scale will also stipulate minimum freights in timber from the Baltic as well as from Canada.

### FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that the first section of the Madagascar Railway, which in March, 1905, had been severely damaged by floods and land slides, was re-opened for traffic on the 1st January. The length of the completed portion is 148 kilometres (92 miles), being from the eastern terminus at Brickaville to the town of Moramanga distant 67 miles from Antananarivo.

Mr. Porter encloses particulars of the railway rates and of goods classification, which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

*Shipping and Transport.***FRANCE—TUNIS.**

Port Charges at Tunis, See notice on p. 414.  
 Sousse and Sfax.

**SPAIN.**

Government Tax and See notice on p. 414.  
 Harbour Dues at Huelva.

**ARGENTINA.**

Adverting to the notice on p. 318 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th November, 1905, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres (Mr. F. D. Harford), under date of 12th January, reports as follows with reference to improved mail and steamship communication between the Argentine Republic and Europe:—

"The Hamburg South American Line has already initiated a monthly service of mail steamers sailing on both voyages to and from Lisbon direct to Buenos Ayres in fifteen and a half days; this will become a fortnightly service when two new steamers are built this year.

"The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company will initiate a similar monthly service, calling at Rio de Janeiro, but at no other Brazilian port, by the "Danube," sailing on the 16th March, making the voyage to Lisbon in sixteen days.

"Through the intervention of the Portuguese Minister at Buenos Ayres, the Messageries-Maritimes now issue first-class tickets available either *via* Lisbon overland, or from Bordeaux, to Paris. This system will be shortly adopted by the Royal Mail, Pacific, and Hamburg lines. The Italian Mail Steamers from Genoa have also accelerated their voyages *via* Cadiz.

"At present the Sud Express runs three times a week to and from Lisbon and Paris, but this service will become a daily service in about three months' time. . . . The sanitary and passport formalities, which have been hitherto very tedious and exacting at Lisbon, have been modified."

**MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

The following tables, showing the output of coal and other minerals in the United Kingdom at mines worked under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Regulations Acts during the year 1905, with comparative figures for the preceding year, are extracted from an advance proof (subject to correction) of the Mines and

**Mineral  
 Production in  
 1905.**

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

Quarries General Report and Statistics for 1905, copy of which has been received at the Board of Trade from the Home Office :—

**I.—Output of Minerals under the Coal Mines Regulations Acts.**

—							1904.	1905.
							Tons.	Tons.
Barytes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,459	4,034
Coal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	232,411,784	236,111,150
Clay and shale other than fire-clay and oil shale...	...	...	...	...	...	...	272,349	301,606
Fire-clay ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,043,045	2,851,418
Igneous rock ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	804	900
Iron pyrites ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,511	8,573
Ironstone ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,557,733	7,860,969
Limestone ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,569	31,426
Oil shale ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,333,062	2,496,567
Sandstone (including "Ganister")...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106,999*	113,505*
Petroleum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	46
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	245,775,315	249,780,194

\* The quantity of ganister obtained was 94,868 tons in 1904 and 107,337 tons in 1905.

**II.—Output of Minerals under Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act.**

—							1904.	1905.
							Tons.	Tons.
Barytes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,130	24,323
Clay and shale	...	...	...	...	...	...	115,892	114,699
Gold ore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,203	15,981
Gypsum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	195,665	216,945
Igneous rocks ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94,255	84,977
Iron ore...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,603,855	1,768,744
Lead ore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,371	27,482
Limestone ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	510,828	511,917
Rock salt ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	187,828	231,546
Sandstone ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	192,284†	161,374†
Slate ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168,278	149,720
Zinc ore...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,655	23,647
Other minerals...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79,092	112,350
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,246,336	3,443,705

† Including 2,668 tons of ganister in 1904 and 2,782 tons in 1905.

It must be borne in mind that the above figures do not in all cases represent the total production of minerals during the year. Large quantities of several important minerals such as iron ore, limestone, sandstone, slate, clay, &c., are obtained from quarries under the Quarries Act, and from other workings the returns from which are not yet available. The totals for coal and the ores of copper, lead, and zinc may, however, be regarded as substantially complete.

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.***TRINIDAD.**

With reference to the notice on p. 552 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 21st December last, and to previous **Oilfields.** notices, respecting the oilfields of Trinidad, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, copy of a special report by the Government Geologist on the Cedros District Oilfields of the Colony.

This report may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**FRANCE.**

The following table, showing the production of coal in France during the year 1905, as compared with the preceding year, is compiled from statistics published in the French "Journal Officiel" of the 21st February :—

—						1904.	1905.
						Metric tons.	Metric tons.
Pit coal and anthracite	...	...	...	...	...	33,502,394	35,347,230
Lignite	...	...	...	...	...	665,572	701,034
Total	...	...	...	...	...	34,167,966	36,048,264

NOTE.—The figures for 1905 are only provisional, those for 1904 are definite.

**CHINA-MANCHURIA.**

The following particulars of coal mines in Manchuria are taken from a report by the Belgian Consul at Tientsin, reproduced in the "Bulletin Commercial" :—

**Fuchung Coal Mines.**

The first Manchurian coal mines worked by the Russians were those at Yentaï, but no very satisfactory results were achieved, and these were abandoned in favour of the mines at Fuchung, situated to the east of Mukden, on the Hung-Ho, which in the opinion of Mr. Tanaka, the Director of the Tokio Bureau of Mines, are very rich in coal. Their value has been variously estimated at from 300,000,000 to 500,000,000 yen\*; these figures are, however, purely hypothetical, as no detailed examination of the mines has yet been carried out by the Japanese, and the Russians worked them for only a short period. From borings carried out by the Japanese it appears that in one part of the Fuchung district the layers of coal are 100 feet thick; these are far thicker than any layers known to exist in Japan. Moreover, the quality of the coal is extremely good. A sample of inferior Manchurian coal, recently analysed at Tokio, was declared to be superior to first quality Japanese coal.

\* Yen = 2s. 0½d.

# YARNS AND TEXTILES.

## INDIA.

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 26th January, 1905, respecting the Tariff Valuation for excise duty on cotton goods produced in British Indian mills, the Board of Trade have received a Notification (No. 7,514 S.R.) dated 15th December, 1905, cancelling Notification No. 8,030 of 1904, and fixing, with effect from 1st January, 1906, the "Tariff Valuation" for the undermentioned descriptions of cotton goods produced in British Indian mills, in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of the Cotton Duties Act of 1896, as follows:—

Articles.	Tariff Valuations per lb.
GREY GOODS, PLAIN OR BORDERED.	
Bed-covers, bedsheets, and chadars, twilled, with borders not over $\frac{1}{2}$ -in.	a. p. 8 6
Chadars and bedsheets, plain, or with borders not over $\frac{1}{4}$ -in....	8 6
Dangari or Khadi cloth ... ..	7 0
Dhuties, cholas, dupattas, and lungis, plain, or with borders not over $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. ... ..	8 6
Dhuties, cholas, dupattas, and lungis, plain, or with borders over $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. but not over $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in....	8 9
Dhuties and patals with headings over 4-in. wide and coloured borders ... ..	9 6
Domestics, T-cloths, shirtings, longcloth, sheetings with borders not over $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. ... ..	8 6
Drills and jeans, plain ... ..	8 6
Fents ... ..	7 6
Printers ... ..	8 9
" (bhagavad) ... ..	8 3
Shirtings, twilled, unbleached ... ..	9 9
" " bleached ... ..	11 0
Tent, sail, commissariat, and double threaded cloth (dosuti) ...	7 9
Zanzibar cloth, including American cloth ... ..	8 6

Provided that for calendered grey goods three pies shall be added to the above values.

FIGURED OR COLOURED GOODS.		a. p.
Bed-covers, quilts, and table cloths, with borders not over $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. ...		8 9
" " table cloths, twilled sheets and chadars, coloured warp or weft ... ..		9 3
Bed-covers, quilts, table cloths, twilled sheets and chadars, coloured warp and weft ... ..		10 3
Ordinary susi check sheets, grey ground... ..		11 0
Bed ticking, plain or drilled ... ..		9 3
Chadars, twilled, coloured (shawl checks) ... ..		11 9
" not twilled, coloured, calico weave, shawl pattern ... ..		10 9
Cholis and saris (coloured)... ..		12 0
Cotton tweed, commonly called hunting cloth, plain or striped, including leheria, Thana susi, Thana twill, and Thana check ...		10 9
Other cotton tweeds and English checks, trouserings, and coatings...		11 9
Drills and jeans, striped ... ..		9 3
" " checked ... ..		9 9
" " khaki dyed ... ..		12 3

*Yarns and Textiles.***INDIA—continued.**

Articles.	Tariff Valuations per lb.
<b>FIGURED OR COLOURED GOODS—continued.</b>	
Tent cloth, blue and red ... ..	a. p. 9 0
" khaki ... ..	10 6
Fents ... ..	8 3
Lungis, unbleached, coloured stripes and borders ... ..	8 9
" coloured ... ..	10 3
Madras cloth... ..	10 6
" " (imitation) ... ..	9 6
" " twilled, checked or striped, coloured warp and weft ..	11 6
" " handkerchiefs or lungis ... ..	12 3
Napkins, unbleached ... ..	9 6
" bleached ... ..	10 6
Susi, ordinary, coloured stripes, grey ground ... ..	9 6
" " " weft ... ..	10 0
Ordinary susi checks, grey ground ... ..	10 9
" " " coloured warp and weft ... ..	11 3
Fancy dobby pattern checks, coloured warp and weft...	11 3
Flannel pattern susi and dobby susi, grey weft...	9 9
" " " " coloured weft ... ..	10 6
English susi check, grey ground ... ..	12 0
Check gumchas and glass checks ... ..	11 6
Towels, Turkish, unbleached ... ..	9 6
" " bleached ... ..	10 6
" " honeycomb, unbleached ... ..	8 6
" " " bleached ... ..	9 9
Zephyr cloth... ..	9 9
" striped and checked ... ..	11 3

Provided that any goods specified in the foregoing lists shall, when woven with borders of silk, be assessed to duty *ad valorem*.

The "Pioneer Mail" (Allahabad) quotes the following extract from the report of Captain S. B. Paterson, Political Officer at Leh, for the year ending 31st March, 1905. Speaking of the export of European piece-goods from India, he says:—

"There is a small decrease in the quantity exported, but an increase in value by Rs. 59,841 [1903-4, Rs. 3,60,558; 1904-5, Rs. 4,20,399]. Last year there was an increase in quantity by 416 maunds and Rs. 66,517 in value. The previous year it had been pointed out that this trade has been practically killed by Russian competition, as Russian merchants were able to imitate piece-goods imported from India, manufacture the same, and import them at far less cost into Chinese Turkestan. The fact that the trade still holds its own may be attributed to the war and the dislocation of Russian industries. When matters right themselves, however, it appears undoubted that trade in this commodity must die. Since writing last year the new railway to Tashkent and Andijan has been opened, and it is obvious that this must affect

*Yarns and Textiles.***INDIA**—*continued.*

the trade from India *viâ* Ladakh seriously. When Russia has regained her equilibrium, and her internal industries are re-established, it is difficult to see how European piece-goods carried by sea to Bombay, thence by rail to Rawalpindi, and thence by pack transport over 500 miles of mountain road over glacier passes, can possibly compete with similar goods practically landed in the country by rail. However, merchants have a spell still in front of them, which they should utilise by pushing on the trade in these goods."

**RUSSIA.**

The British Commercial Agent in Russia reports that Lodz firms have approached the Ministry of Trade and Industry for alleviation in the conditions of export of Russian textile goods to Manchuria and the Pri-Amour region. The petitioning firms point out that, if Russian industry is not now favoured in the Far East, Japan and America will take possession of these markets. Meanwhile, the overland route to the Far East is very long and expensive, wherefore the Lodz firms petition for reduced freight rates, by rail to Odessa, and by sea thence to Vladivostok, with the assistance of the Volunteer Fleet. Lodz manufacturers have decided to construct at Vladivostok central depôts for Russian goods, whence the latter could be distributed over the whole Far East.

**AGRICULTURE.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 24th February, 1906, were as follows:—

**Corn Prices.**

Wheat	...	...	...	28s. 10d.
Barley	...	...	...	25s. 4d.
Oats	...	...	...	19s. 0d.

For further particulars see p. 431.

A statement is published on p. 432, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 24th February, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

**Imports of Agricultural Produce.**

### *Agriculture.*

#### **JAMAICA.**

In a recent report by the Canadian Commercial Agent in Jamaica it is stated that very serious attention is being paid to the extensive cultivation of rubber in the colony. Many acres are already planted out, and earnest consideration is being given to the best methods of cultivation in order to obtain the most satisfactory results.

**Rubber  
Cultivation.**

#### **RUSSIA.**

The "Nachrichten für Handel" (Berlin) quotes from the "Praw Wjestnik" regarding the wine industry of the Black Sea Province. The Black Sea coast for a distance of 20 versts from Novorossisk to Sotschi, is, on account of its soil and climate, one of the most suitable districts in Russia for the wine industry. In the Novorossisk district, where the industry has existed for about 30 years, the return per acre amounts to 300 gallons annually. Red, white, and also wines from Rhenish grapes, are said to be of good enough quality to compete with foreign wines, and latterly champagne has also been produced. In the Tuapse district, the return per acre is 800 gallons, but the wine is altogether poorer in quality. Wine is also produced in the Sotschi district in small quantities for local consumption only.

In spite of the quality of the wine of the Black Sea Province, this product finds no sale in the interior of Russia, owing to faulty classification of the wine, high prices, and ignorance of market requirements. Moreover, a set-back in the development of the industry has recently been noticeable.

**Wine Industry  
of the Black Sea  
Province.**

#### **FRANCE—INDO-CHINA.**

In his recent report on Indo-China, Mr. G. W. Pearson, Assistant in H.M. China Consular Service, states, with regard to the increase in tobacco cultivation, that the plant is grown chiefly in the districts of Vinh-bao, Vin-loi, Tu-ky and Gia-loc, in the Provinces of Haiduong and Phu-lien. A factory is working at Hanoi, and representatives were despatched to purchase the growing crops. Prepared tobacco was exported from this factory to the value of 300,000 dols. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,528.*)

**Tobacco  
Cultivation.**

#### **ITALY.**

H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville-Rolfe, M.V.O.) reports that a very considerable expansion has taken place in the cultivation of tobacco in South Italy in the past year. It is hoped in a short time that Italy will grow all the tobacco she requires for herself, and even rival Egypt in the export trade. An increase of 11,000,000 plants has been made in the past year, most of them being of the Levantine and Kentucky varieties. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,530.*)

**Tobacco  
Cultivation in  
South Italy.**

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 22nd February, 1906, **Cotton Statistics.** was 72,870 (including 181 bales British West Indian and 14 bales British West African), and the number imported during the eight weeks ended the 22nd February was 945,453 (including 636 bales British West Indian and 133 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 22nd February, 1906, 7,522 bales, and for the eight weeks, 78,532.

For further details see p. 431.

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### BRITISH INDIA-COCHIN.

The German Consul-General at Calcutta reports an undertaking of considerable importance in the development of the forest resources of Cochin. The difficulties of transporting the timber from the interior have been overcome by the construction of a light railway in sections, at three different levels, of  $20\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , and 19 miles long respectively, connected by shoots, and joining the main railway line to Cochin.

It is expected that this line will bring down yearly 500,000 cubic feet of teak-wood, ebony, &c., a supply which should be of no little importance.

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### CEYLON.

The "Ceylon Government Gazette" of 2nd February publishes the text of a proposed Ordinance, to "amend the Law relating to the granting of Patents for Inventions." The general object of this measure is to replace the existing Inventions Ordinance by a measure on the lines of the enactments with regard to Patents which are in force in the United Kingdom.

The "Gazette" may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Board of Trade have received from the Department of Trade and Customs, Melbourne, a copy of each of the under-mentioned Acts recently passed by the Parliament of the Commonwealth:—

The Trade Marks Act, 1905, relating to the registration of Trade Marks, and also providing for the transfer of the administration of the State Trade Marks Acts to the Commonwealth.

*Miscellaneous.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH**—*continued.*

The Copyright Act, 1905, relating to the copyright of books, musical works, &c., and also providing for the transfer of the administration of the State Copyright Acts to the Commonwealth.

**Copyright Act,  
1905.**

The Census and Statistics Act, 1905, providing for a census to be taken in 1911, and every 10 years after, and also for the appointment of a Statistician who shall compile statistics for the Commonwealth as a whole, not only relating to trade but also population, industries, employment, factories, mines, agriculture, railways, &c.

**Census and  
Statistics Act,  
1905.**

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**

The "Straits Settlement Government Gazette" of the 29th January publishes (1) an amending Ordinance to the Currency Note Ordinance, 1899, to the effect that the Government may issue notes in exchange for gold, and may invite tenders for the issue of notes in Singapore against telegraphic transfers in favour of the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London; and (2) an Order in Council fixing the issue of notes in exchange for gold at the rate of 60 dols. for 7*l.* (2*s.* 4*d.* per dollar).

**Amendment of  
Currency  
Ordinance: Rate  
of Exchange.**

**RUSSIA.**

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) reports that the St. Petersburg Town Council have passed a resolution enabling the Town Authorities of the Capital to conclude a contract with the Westinghouse Works for the supply of rails, screw-joints, switches, &c., to the sum of 1,802,438 roubles 17 c., and for the re-construction of the roadways, laying of the lines, and construction of the electric junction of the rails, to the sum of 1,133,045 roubles 97 c., for electric trams at St. Petersburg. The total sum assigned in connection with these tramways amounts to 3,359,677 roubles 71 c., including other contracts to be made for sleepers, &c.

**Electric  
Tramways at  
St. Petersburg.**

NOTE.—The Westinghouse Brake Company has works at St. Petersburg.

The British Commercial Agent further reports that, according to the Moscow Press, Imperial sanction has been given to the project of a Consortium or Syndicate, formed by Moscow bankers and their St. Petersburg branches, with the co-operation of the State Bank, with a view to assisting trade and industry and raising

**Bank Consortium  
at Moscow.**

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*Miscellaneous.*

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**RUSSIA**—*continued.*

trade credit seriously affected by the strikes and other events of last year. The Consortium, as it is termed in the Russian Press, will begin operations from the middle of February.

A later report by Mr. Cooke states that, according to the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg, of 18th/31st January, the Moscow banks have definitely confirmed their participation in the consortium, which is to begin to operate at once. The agreement is for six months, with power of renewal on expiry, till the complete restoration of trade credit. To begin with, the consortium proposes to help a Moscow colonial goods and tea firm, which, owing to late events, has experienced difficulties in meeting its liabilities. Moscow banks have taken responsibility for 3,130,000 roubles, St. Petersburg banks 3,200,000, and the Moscow branch of the State Bank 13,000,000. In addition to this, a credit of 37,000,000 roubles has been opened on behalf of the consortium.

Mr. Cooke also reports a scheme for the introduction of new, and the increase of existing excise duties. It is proposed to tax paper (see "Board of Trade Journal," 8th February, page 286), under three categories:—Packing and wrapper, 30 copecks per pound; newspaper, 60 copecks per pound; the highest quality used in *éditions de luxe*, 1 r. 20 c. per pound; cigarette paper at the rate of 5 copecks per 1,000 cigarettes.

The idea has been mooted of taxing electric energy for illumination purposes. Electric energy for traction purposes it is proposed either to exempt altogether from taxation or to tax in minimum dimensions. It is further proposed to tax gas lighting, and increase the tax on tobacco.

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**NORWAY.**

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Minister at Christiania (Sir A. J. Herbert, K.C.V.O.),  
**Trade in 1905.** reports that, according to the Statistical Bureau's returns, the total value of the imports into Norway in 1905 was about 16,000,000*l.*, which is rather less than in 1904. The exports, on the other hand, show an increase of 550,000*l.*, the total being estimated at 10,300,000*l.* This increase chiefly consisted of wood pulp and cellulose.

The State Railways for 1905 show but poor returns. Bank shares and values generally to 1st February, 1906, show higher quotations than they did in the year ending 1st February, 1905, so it would seem that the country generally is slowly extricating itself from the trade stagnation of the past few years.

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*Miscellaneous.*

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**OTTOMAN EMPIRE.**

The "Levant Herald" states that a Commission has been appointed by the Turkish Government with a view to carrying out reforms in Custom House administration.

**Reforms in  
Custom House  
Administration.**

The Commission decided, in the first place, to send a capable and intelligent official to Smyrna to reorganise the Custom House at that port; pending the departure of this official, a reorganisation committee is to be formed at Smyrna.

The Commission also recommended an extension of the hours during which the Custom Houses are open; greater regularity in the attendance of the officials; more active supervision with a view to seizing goods which are forbidden to enter Turkey; and increased facilities to traders for the clearance of goods. These recommendations were embodied in a circular which has been sent to the heads of Custom Houses throughout the Empire.

The formalities which have to be gone through by travelling agents to obtain the return of the deposit made on their goods which may be claimed if these are re-exported within six months, have been simplified; while it has been decided that no duty will henceforth be charged on samples of no intrinsic value. The question of chemical analysis laboratories was also discussed; these will very shortly be established in the principal towns.

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**BRAZIL.**

The Belgian Legation at Rio de Janeiro report that the tax on commercial travellers in the State of Amazonas has been fixed for the current year at 200 milreis.

**Tax on Commer-  
cial Travellers in  
Amazonas.**

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**CHINA.**

The "Overland China Mail" states that the Chinese Government formally notified the Foreign Ministers of the opening to foreign trade of the three cities of Chinanfu, Weihsien, and Choutsun, in Shantung, on the 10th January last.

**Opening to Foreign  
Trade of Chinanfu,  
Weihsien and Choutsun.**

*Note.*—For statement as to ports, &c., open to foreign trade, see "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th October, 1904, p. 172.

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## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

**Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 8 Weeks ended 22nd February, 1906 :—**

	Week ended 22nd Feb., 1906.	8 Weeks ended 22nd Feb., 1906.	Week ended 22nd Feb., 1906.	8 Weeks ended 22nd Feb., 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	50,486	722,099	5,618	40,269
Brazilian ... ..	6,706	63,116	149	1,929
East Indian ... ..	5,958	29,057	631	8,760
Egyptian ... ..	9,121	120,730	958	26,500
Miscellaneous ... ..	599*	10,451†	166	1,074
Total ... ..	72,870	945,453	7,522	78,532

\* Including 181 bales British West Indian, and 14 bales British West African.

† " 636 " " " 133 " "

### Corn Prices.

**Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 24th February, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.**

			Average Price.					
			Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 24th February, 1906	...	...	28	10	25	4	19	0
<b>Corresponding week in—</b>								
1899	...	...	25	8	26	7	17	50
1900	...	...	26	4	24	6	16	10
1901	...	...	25	11	25	0	17	9
1902	...	...	27	1	26	8	20	5
1903	...	...	25	3	23	2	17	1
1904	...	...	27	10	22	4	16	3
1905	...	...	30	10	25	0	16	10

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

### Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 24th February, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

					Week ended 24th Feb., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>						
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	...	...	...	Number.	8,089	10,260
Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	"	1,898	4,793
Swine	...	...	...	"	—	—
Horses	...	...	...	"	648	209
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>						
Beef	...	...	...	Cwts.	91,148	101,580
Mutton	...	...	...	"	65,916	79,442
Pork	...	...	...	"	13,146	16,303
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>						
Bacon	...	...	...	Cwts.	116,097	126,572
Beef	...	...	...	"	2,030	3,856
Hams	...	...	...	"	24,517	32,990
Pork	...	...	...	"	3,346	5,405
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh	...	...	...	"	15,426	16,313
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	...	...	...	"	7,697	14,054
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>						
Butter	...	...	...	Cwts.	95,844	76,930
Margarine	...	...	...	"	22,738	19,953
Cheese	...	...	...	"	18,044	16,707
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	...	...	...	"	—	—
" cream	...	...	...	"	103	73
" condensed	...	...	...	"	17,357	22,457
" preserved, other kinds...	...	...	...	"	54	21
Eggs	...	...	...	Grt. Hundr.	267,683	293,981
Poultry	...	...	...	Value £	20,624	31,958
Game	...	...	...	"	1,373	1,820
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	...	...	...	Cwts.	6,956	4,394
Lard	...	...	...	"	49,476	49,835
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>						
Wheat	...	...	...	Cwts.	605,100	1,134,200
Wheat meal and flour	...	...	...	"	213,700	253,500
Barley	...	...	...	"	375,500	185,400
Oats	...	...	...	"	397,900	338,800
Peas	...	...	...	"	28,830	30,600
Beans	...	...	...	"	5,080	34,520
Maize or Indian corn	...	...	...	"	841,000	932,200
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>						
Apples	...	...	...	Cwts.	38,672	52,866
Apricots and peaches	...	...	...	"	109	75
Bananas	...	...	...	Bunches.	77,732	52,875
Cherries	...	...	...	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	...	...	...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	...	...	...	"	—	—
Grapes	...	...	...	"	182	191
Lemons	...	...	...	"	13,354	4,462
Oranges	...	...	...	"	250,379	112,618
Pears	...	...	...	"	285	188
Plums	...	...	...	"	66	23
Strawberries	...	...	...	"	—	—
Unenumerated	...	...	...	"	10	2,650
Hay...	...	...	...	Tons.	3,127	2,383
Straw	...	...	...	"	1,150	6,552
Moss Litter	...	...	...	"	2,013	1,643
Hops	...	...	...	Cwts.	4,167	1,238
Locust Beans	...	...	...	"	13,744	6,162
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>						
Onions	...	...	...	Bushels.	181,907	54,341
Potatoes	...	...	...	Cwts.	11,462	22,319
Tomatoes	...	...	...	"	16,805	9,399
Unenumerated	...	...	...	Value £	10,103	8,544
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>						
Preserved by canning...	...	...	...	Cwts.	1,310	2,957
	...	...	...	"	2,850	2,672

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of January, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 9*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 7*d.* for the first and 4*s.* 3*d.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Disputes in 1905; Wholesale Prices in 1905; Co-operative Credit Societies; Labour in New York State; and Relief of the Unemployed.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual and Miscellaneous Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

#### ANNUAL.

##### No. 3,531. Mexican Budget 1905-06.

This is a review of the Budget statement for the fiscal year 1905-06, with a summary of the estimates of revenue and expenditure, comparing them with the corresponding estimates for the two previous years.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

##### No. 643. Coal Industry of the United States in 1904.

This report shows the output from the various coalfields in each year from 1899 to 1904; price per ton at the mines for five years; yearly and daily production per man, also production by machines,

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*Government Publications.*

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in 1903 and 1904; average coal prices in the States for 25 years; together with notes on the increasing use of under-cutting machinery and details of wages, strikes, accidents, &c., &c.

**No. 644. French Octroi System.**

This is an account of the octroi system existing in France; its origin and a sketch of its history; modes of collection; statistics of receipts; distribution of taxation, &c., &c.

**No. 645. Agriculture in Germany.**

Included in this report are particulars of the sub-division of the soil in Germany; comparative statistics of the area under crops and of the yield; tables showing imports and exports of wheat, rye, corn, potatoes, flour, live-stock, dairy produce, &c.; average prices of important food-stuffs; prices of domestic produce, and statistics relating to contagious diseases of animals.

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**OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*Trade Unions. Board of Trade (Labour Department). Report by the the Chief Labour Correspondent of the Board of Trade on Trade Unions in 1902-4 with comparative statistics for 1895-1904. [Cd. 2,838.] Price 1s. 2d.*

This is the 15th Report to the Board of Trade on Trade Unions, and deals with the years 1902-04, comparative statistics for the years 1895-1904 being also given.

At the end of 1904 there were, so far as known to the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, 1,148 Trade Unions in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of 1,866,755, as compared with 1,239 Unions, with a total membership of 1,940,874, at the end of 1901; these figures show a decline in membership of 74,119 or 3·8 per cent. During the three years dealt with, 93 Unions came into existence, and 130 Unions were dissolved, in addition to 54 absorbed or amalgamated with other unions.

The report contains detailed information as to the membership of the various Trade Unions, and particulars of the receipts and expenditure of the 100 principal unions.

*South African Shipping Freights Conference. Reports, Minutes of Meetings, Documentary Evidence, &c.*

This publication contains the report adopted by the Conference of Delegates representing the Governments of Portuguese East Africa, Cape Colony, the Transvaal, the Orange River Colony, and Rhodesia, which met in London last December, under the Chairmanship of Sir Alfred Bateman, late of the Board of Trade, to give effect to the recommendations of previous Conferences dealing with the question of ocean freights to South African Ports.

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*Government Publications.*

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Appended to the report are copies of correspondence between the Conference and the South African Merchants' Committee, the South African Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, and the Shipowners; and reports of previous Conferences on the same subject held in Durban and Johannesburg. The documentary evidence submitted includes various memoranda by the Board of Trade.

*Treaty Series. No. 1, 1906. Agreement additional to the Money Order Convention of 8th December, 1882, between the United Kingdom and France. Signed at Paris, 20th April, 1904. [Ratifications exchanged at Paris, 10th January, 1906.] [Cd. 2,814.] Price ½d.*

*Treaty Series. No. 2, 1906. Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting Telegraphic Communication between Mauritius and Reunion. Signed at Paris, 6th December, 1905. [Ratifications exchanged at Paris, 10th January, 1906.] [Cd. 2,815.] Price ½d.*

*International Sugar Commission. Report of Proceedings, Autumn Session, 1905. Cd. 2,813. 1d.*

*Gas Undertakings. Return relating to all authorised Gas Undertakings in the United Kingdom other than those of Local Authorities, for the year ended 31st December, 1904 (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 331 of 1904). 320. Price 10d.*

*Gas Undertakings (Local Authorities). Returns relating to all authorised Gas Undertakings in the United Kingdom belonging to Local Authorities, for the year ended 25th March, 1905 (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper No. 332 of 1904). 321. Price 5½d.*

According to these Returns, which have been prepared in the Board of Trade by order of the House of Commons, there were in 1904, 469 authorised gas undertakings in the United Kingdom, other than those belonging to local authorities, as compared with 459 in 1903. The number of such undertakings belonging to local authorities in the year 1904-5 was 265, as compared with 260 in the year 1903-4.

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## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

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**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

*February, 1906.*

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes:—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

March 8, 1906.

[No. 484

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 484.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
German woollen cloths sold in Alexandria	8th March, 1906	476
Evaporated bananas from the Seychelles Islands ... ..	15th Feb., 1906	333
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Cape of Good Hope.
Dominion of Canada.	Transvaal and Orange
Queensland.	River Colony.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 485.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—(a) Galvanised eye-bolts and strand wire, for fencing; (b) Steel posts, &c., for fencing; as per specifications to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane,

**Fencing  
Materials.**

### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*

London, E.C. Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Steel Posts, &c.," or as the case may be, not later than noon on Wednesday, the 14th March. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1l. 1s. is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

The Madras Railway Company are prepared to receive until noon on Monday, the 26th March, tenders for

**Railway Stores.** the supply and delivery, free on board, of bar iron, steel sheets, plates, wire, zinc, and tin sheets, copper and brass sheets and wire, pig lead, white and red lead, paints and colours, carpenters' and engineers' hand tools, anvils, hammers, vices, crowbars, spanners, bellows, files, screws, nails, glass, crockery, ironmongery, leather, lamp-wicks, locks, wire netting, hammer handles, canvas, bunting, saws, chains, shovels, grindstones, tar, turpentine, varnishes, drysalteries, soaps, fog-signals and brushes, as per specifications to be seen at the Company's office, 1, Broad Street Place, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C. Tenders are to be delivered in sealed envelopes addressed to the secretary endorsed "Tender for General Stores, Part I." (or Part II., as the case may be). The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. A charge, (which cannot be refunded) will be made for each copy of the specification.

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#### **CANADA.**

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.** Offices, 17, Victoria Street, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A well-known iron company are desirous of getting into communication with shipowners, engineers and others interested in the materials they produce, with a view to an extension of business in Canada.

An English manufacturer is seeking the services of an agent in Montreal who is conversant with the saddlery and dry goods trades.

An important firm of hosiery manufacturers in Scotland require a Canadian agent calling upon the best retail houses.

A West of England firm, manufacturing Indian and Venetian reds, purple browns, ochres, umbers, siennas, &c., are looking out for agents in Canada who can represent them.

**Canadian Enquiry.**—An agent at Halifax, Nova Scotia, with good

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **CANADA**—*continued.*

business knowledge and offering excellent references, is seeking the representation of some reliable English houses desiring to establish agencies in the Maritime provinces, or in Canada generally.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A manufacturer of racing, riding, hunting and military spurs wishes to obtain a share of Canadian trade in these goods.

A Manchester house ask to be placed in communication with Canadian importers of cotton, woollen and silk goods.

A firm dealing in chemicals and hardware desire the addresses of Canadian importers of such goods.

A firm dealing in scrap iron, &c., would like to hear from Canadian importers.

A London company manufacturing cotton waste ask to be placed in communication with Canadian importers.

**Canadian enquiry.**—A firm in St. John, New Brunswick, who are large buyers of old Manilla rope junk, ask to be placed in communication with United Kingdom dealers.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### **AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

Tenders will be received at the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide, up till 3 p.m. on 25th April, 1906, for the supply of the following materials, delivered in bond, on wharf, Port Adelaide, wharfage to be paid by the contractor.

**Railway  
Material.**

- 33 best mild steel boiler plates.
- 19 best mild steel smokebox tube plates for flanging (eight drawings, 1s. each).
- 10 copper tube plates, flanged (five drawings, 1s. each).
- 1,450 solid drawn best toughened copper tubes.
- 25 solid drawn best copper pipes.
- 200 volute springs (one drawing, 1s.).
- 12 best steel straight axle forgings (one drawing, 1s. 6d.).
- 119 bars channel steel (two drawings, 1s. each).
- 93 bars angle steel (two drawings, 1s. each).

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH**—*continued.*

- 340 mild steel plates.
- 150 feet of iron chain.
- 300 private locks (one drawing, 1s.)
- 50 carriage rugs.
- 281 solid drawn mild steel tubes.

Specifications may be seen and forms of tender obtained at the Supply and Tender Board Office, and the office of the Chief Mechanical Engineer, Islington, South Australia; specifications may also be seen at the office of the Agent-General for South Australia, 28, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C.

Copies of indent, with specifications complete (13s. each) and drawings, may be obtained at the Chief Mechanical Engineer's office, Islington, South Australia. Date of delivery, as well as the names of manufacturers of the materials tendered for, must be distinctly stated in each tender. The materials are subject to the inspection, test, and approval of the Government inspecting engineer, in London, or the Chief Mechanical Engineer, in Adelaide. The expenses of the inspecting engineer will be paid by the Agent-General, London (except in cases as specified), who will also advance 75 per cent. on the contract on receipt of bills of lading, insurance policy, and the usual shipping documents, accompanied by the certificate of the inspecting engineer; and the balance of the contract will be paid in Adelaide or London, at the option of the contractor, upon satisfactory delivery of the materials.

Successful tenderers will be required, within seven days of date of notice of acceptance of tender, to enter into an agreement and make a deposit equal to 5 per cent. of the total value of their accepted tender as security for the due fulfilment of contract.

Tenders should be endorsed "Tender for railway materials."

Neither the lowest nor any tender necessarily accepted.

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### **SOUTH AFRICA.**

Tenders are invited for the supply of lubricating oils for the Central South African Railways. Particulars and forms of tender may be obtained at the Office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., on or before the 15th March, on payment of a deposit of 1l. 1s. which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 13th February, publishes notices inviting tenders for the supply to various convict stations during the year ended 30th June, 1907, of provisions and other articles in accordance with schedules appearing in the "Gazette," as follows:—(1) To be sent in before noon on the 6th April to the Resident Magistrates at East London, Port Elizabeth, Tulbagh,

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### SOUTH AFRICA—*continued.*

Stellenbosch, Paarl, (2) to be sent in before noon on the 13th April to the office of the Controller and Auditor-General, Cape Town.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The "Gazette" also contains notices by (1) The Borough Council of King William's Town, (2) the Municipal Council of Woodstock, (3) the Council of the Municipality of East London, of intention to **Water Works.** apply for Parliamentary powers for various schemes in connection with supplementing the water supply in the towns named.

The Canadian Commercial Agent at Cape Town (Mr. C. M. Kittson) reports a market for seeds in South Africa. **Seeds.** As each succeeding year sees an increased area brought under cultivation, the demand for imported seeds, Mr. Kittson says, will probably be an ever-increasing one. The following figures show the value of the imports of seeds into South Africa during the years 1903 and 1904, the latest years for which the details are available:—

Description.						1903.	1904.
						£	£
Bird seed	...	...	...	...	..	8,784	11,617
Food seed	...	...	...	...	...	1,922	732
Garden and vegetable	...	...	...	...	...	28,788	25,208
Potato seed (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	44,286	28,384
Plants and bulbs	...	...	...	...	...	10,973	14,203
Cereals (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	95,000	85,000
Total	...	...	...	...	...	189,753	165,144

Mr. Kittson states that the chief desiderata in catering for this trade are that seeds should not be forced, and that they should be well but economically packed in bulk, not in packets.

According to the official "Agricultural Journal" (Cape Town), there is a great opening for windmills in South **Windmills.** Africa. Serious complaints, however, are made to the effect that the windmills at present supplied are out of date, defective, unadapted to local requirements, and unnecessarily expensive. Windmills left to look after themselves to a great extent, as they of necessity must be for stock and bore hole purposes, should be of the best design, material, and workmanship, and should be most carefully erected.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **SOUTH AFRICA**—*continued.*

According to the "South African Trade Journal" (Cape Town) the movement which is gradually growing throughout South Africa in favour of placing the slaughtering business upon a footing approaching in sanitation and convenience the standard which attains in progressive countries, is worth the attention of those manufacturing firms who supply the various materials, fittings, and utensils used in the construction and working of such establishments.

**Abattoir  
Requisites.**

At a conference held last December of delegates from the various local authorities of the Cape Peninsula, it was resolved to move Parliament to put the whole business of meat-supplying on a proper basis, by the establishment of municipally or State controlled abattoirs with a rigid system of inspection.

### **EGYPT.**

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 21st February, announces that tenders will be received at the office of the Road-Bridge Construction. Assiout Barrage, Assiout, up to 10 a.m. on the 2nd April, for the construction of a road-bridge over the Ibrahimieh at Manfalout. Contractors should send in their own designs, together with a tender in a lump sum, to the Director of the Barrage. The work is to be completed by 1st June, 1907.

Persons wishing to tender can consult the specification and plan at the offices of the Inspector-General of Irrigation, Upper Egypt, Cairo, and at the office of the Barrage Directorate, Assiout.

Tenders must be submitted on stamped paper; they should be addressed to the Director of the Assiout Barrage, in a sealed envelope bearing the inscription, "Tender for a road-bridge over the Ibrahimieh at Manfalout."

The "Journal" also announces that the Ministry of Finance invites tenders for the supply of 18,750 mitkals of silver and gilt thread required for the making of the Holy Carpet.

**Silver and  
Gilt Thread.**

Specifications and samples may be seen at the "Direction du Secretariat, Ministry of Finance, Cairo." A copy of the specification (in French), received from H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban), may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

All tenders should be written on stamped paper of 30 millièmes and enclosed in sealed envelope addressed to the Director of the Secretariat. They will be received up to 19th April.

Mital = 1½ Dithems = 72·22 grains.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### EGYPT—continued.

Mr. Alban has also forwarded particulars of invitations for tenders for (1) 80 tons of Rangoon rice ("No. 3" quality), new crop, to be delivered into store-room, Tourah Mills, by the end of May, 1906; and (2) 320 tons of Rangoon rice, as above, to be delivered into bonded warehouses either at Suez or Port Sudan. Tenders in both cases must be submitted to the Financial Secretary, War Office, Cairo, before noon on the 3rd April.

A copy of each of the specifications may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### RUSSIA—FINLAND.

A report has been received from H.M. Consul at Helsingfors (Mr. C. J. Cooke) to the effect that the Finnish Senate has decided that the quantity of timber to be sold this year from the Government forests, by public auction, is to be 2,205,112 logs, besides 48,700 cubic metres of pulp-wood and props, and 34,170 cubic metres of fire-wood.

The various districts produce the following quantities:—

Uleaborg ...	...	1,561,121 logs (chiefly red and white wood) and 48,700 cubic metres of pulp wood and props.
Vasa ...	...	128,267 logs.
Knopio ...	...	251,425 „
Viborg and St. Michael ...	...	139,323 logs and 32,170 cubic metres of fire-wood.
Abo ...	...	65,406 logs and 2,000 cubic metres of fire-wood.
Tavastehus ...	...	59,570 logs.

This is calculated to bring in a revenue of 400,000*l.* The quantity of timber sold and the revenue increase yearly. Last year 1,867,928 logs were sold in a similar manner.

### SWEDEN.

H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor) has forwarded particulars of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Swedish State Railways of oil for making gas, from which it appears that about 450,000 kilos. of oil are required for delivery during the present year.

For the information of persons tendering it is stated that the oil has to be, as regards quality, in agreement with stipulations which may be obtained from the Stores Office of the Railway Administration ("Jernvägsstyrelsens, Förrädsbyrå"), Central Station, Stockholm, where information and forms of tender can be

### *Openings for British Trade.*

obtained. The oil is to be delivered in tank waggons containing from 7,000 to 15,000 kilos., or in well-made casks containing 150 kilos. If delivered in tank waggons, delivery has to be made as requisitioned, free of duty at Helsingborg or Malmö; if in casks, delivery has to be made free in railway waggons. The oil will be required at the following places and times:—

About	50,000	kilos.	in	Stockholm	in	May.
„	150,000	„	„	„	„	July.
„	150,000	„	„	„	„	November.
„	40,000	„	„	Gottenburg	in	July.
„	60,000	„	„	Malmö	„	July.

Prices have to be given in Swedish currency per 100 kilos. net, duty paid. Two casks of the oil to be supplied must be sent for examination to the Stores Department not later than 24th March. Sealed tenders are to be delivered to the Registrar of the Royal Railway Administration ("Kungl. Jernvagsstyrelsens, Centralstationen, Stockholm") before mid-day on 14th April, marked on the cover "Anbud a gasberedningsolja."

### **DENMARK.**

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 2nd March contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Copenhagen  
**Petroleum Waste.** Public Lighting Department of about 1,600 tons of good massut, or similar residuum of petroleum, for the manufacture of carbonised water gas. Further particulars are obtainable from the Director of Public Lighting, No. 22B, Vestre Boulevard, Copenhagen, to which address tenders marked "Tilbud paa Massuth" must be sent by mid-day on 29th March.

### **GERMANY.**

H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal) notifies that tenders are invited by the Kgl. Wasserbauinspektion at  
**Steam Coal.** Stettin-Bredow, for the supply of 3,100 tons of steam coal for the fiscal year 1906.

Conditions of contract may be seen at the office of "Kgl. Regierungs-Bauhof, Stettin-Bredow," or may be obtained there on payment of 1s. 2d., not in stamps.

Tenders bearing the inscription "Angebot auf Kohlenlieferung für die Königliche Wasserbauinspektion" will be received at the address given above up to 11 a.m. on the 16th March.

### **BELGIUM.**

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) has forwarded particulars of a notice, issued by the  
**Electric Lighting** Municipal authorities of that city, inviting  
**Installation.** tenders for the installation of electric light in the new Flemish theatre.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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The specification ("Cahier des Charges") relating to the contract may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the "Collège des Bourgmestre et Echévins de la ville d'Anvers," and should reach the Hotel de Ville not later than the 19th March. A deposit of 7,000 francs (280*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

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**SPAIN.**

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 27th February, contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be received until 2nd April, at the Municipal Offices at Cartagena and Lorca and at the offices of the Secretary to the Institute, Murcia, for the construction of a museum and school at Murcia, at the upset price of 188,751 pesetas (about 6,435*l.*), in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta." A deposit of 8,579 pesetas (about 292*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Tenders will be opened on 5th April.

**Building  
Materials.**

The "Gaceta" of 28th February, contains a notice inviting tenders which will be opened on 6th April simultaneously at the "Casas Consistoriales," Barcelona, and at the Directorate General of Municipal Administration, Madrid, for the carrying out of paving works in Barcelona, at the upset price of 260,375 pesetas (about 8,877*l.*), in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta." A deposit of 13,018 pesetas (about 443*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

**Paving  
Materials.**

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**ITALY.**

In his report on the trade of South Italy for the year 1905, H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville-Rolfe, M.V.O.) states that there is every reason to hope that the result of the new law giving such large facilities for the industrial development of Naples (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd February 1905, p. 348) is going to prove a signal success. Much has been done already, and many enquiries have been made by British firms, some of which will no doubt speedily bear fruit. The transformation has begun, and the "Industrial North" of Italy is taking a notable share in it. The establishment of a large cotton mill, an important factory for beetroot sugar, and a vast rope-walk is being undertaken.

**Development of  
Industries  
at Naples.**

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### *Openings for British Trade.*

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#### ITALY—*continued.*

There are numerous industries, adds Mr. Neville-Rolfe, which, if not entirely lacking, are, to say the least of it, capable of indefinite development. The manufacture of chemical manures on a large scale could not but give a good return, as their use is increasing throughout the country by leaps and bounds. Pottery, now in the hands of small manufacturers, might, with capital and improved appliances, rise to an important output in the hands of an experienced company; and the preservation of fruit and vegetables, the extraction of essences, alike for the table and for the production of perfumes, would, it is said, utilise the prolific gifts of nature and fill the pockets of shareholders. It is strange that in a country which produces flowers so easily and alcohol in such quantities, a country moreover in which so much scent is used, should not produce perfumes on a large scale. Even the orange flower, which in other places is carefully gathered when it falls in the summer, is allowed to perish on the ground. Similarly, lemons are exported in vast quantities and often at very low prices, and tartar is also exported on a large scale to be made into lemonade in other countries, when it might so easily be made in the country of its origin. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,530.*)

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#### OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

The "Levant Herald" reports that Turkish farmers are beginning to appreciate the advantages of modern agricultural machinery. The agricultural inspector of the vilayet of Konieh ascribes the considerable improvement in crop returns which took place in that province last year to the harvesters which were introduced. Cultivators are inclined to replace their entire equipment with modern tools and machines.

According to the same Journal, the plans for the new Customs buildings at Salonica have been submitted to the Porte. The estimated cost of the three large entrepôts, with cranes, &c., is £T 40,000.

The "Herald" further reports that in view of the beet-root production in the vilayet of Erzeroum, the local authorities are proposing to establish a sugar factory there.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**BOLIVIA.**

According to the "Nouveau Monde" (Paris) the Bolivian Government has empowered an Argentine **Railway Material** syndicate to construct a railway from Santa Cruz to Pedro-Suarez (on the Paraguay, opposite Corumba). The line will be 620 kiloms. (385 miles) long and 1 metre gauge.

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**FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

The Board of Trade have received a prospectus of the National Engineering and General Trades Exhibition, which is to be held at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, from 29th March to 9th June next. This **National Trades and Industrial Exhibition.** exhibition will be of the same character as previous exhibitions held under the same management, the last being in 1904. The building will be ready for the reception of goods on the 22nd March.

A copy of the prospectus may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**ITALY.**

H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey) has forwarded the following particulars regarding an International motor omnibus competition and an International motor boat race, to be held at Milan and on Lake Maggiore respectively, during the time of the Milan exhibition. **Motor Omnibus and Boat Competitions at Milan Exhibition.**

The object of the motor omnibus competition is to test punctual service and practical utility of omnibuses capable of holding twelve passengers, besides driver and conductor. A price of 10,000 lire (400*l.*) is offered. Applications for entries are to be made before the 31st March.

The motor boat race will be limited to boats not exceeding a maximum length of 12 metres between perpendiculars, and driven by any kind of motor and of any power. Boats 40 English feet long will be accepted for 12 metres. Three prizes are offered, viz:—(1) 5,000 lire (200*l.*) and a cup offered by the King of Italy, (2) a work of art offered by H.R.H. the Duke of Genoa, (3) a nautical instrument offered by the Minister of Marine. Applications will be received up to 31st August; those received after that date to 15th September will be charged double entrance fee.

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## TRANSVAAL AND ORANGE RIVER COLONY GOVERNMENTS TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICE.

A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, on the lines of the Agency established at the same address by the Government of Cape Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The primary purpose of the new office is to deal with enquiries relating to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c., and the Superintendent, Mr. G. A. G. Stanley, will endeavour to supply, as far as possible, any information that may be required by applicants in the interests of the Colonies, or to direct them to the most reliable sources for obtaining it.

The Office is furnished with official statistical and other publications relating to the trade of the Colonies, colonial directories, copies of regulations affecting railway traffic, publications relating to mines and other natural products, &c., all of which may be consulted upon application, by those interested, free of charge.

## FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN FEBRUARY, 1906.\*

### I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for February, 1906, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1905, show increases in the value of the **Imports** into, and also in the value of the **Exports** from the United Kingdom, both of British produce and of Foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the **Imports** in February, 1906, was 47,528,835*l.*, an increase of 4,683,898*l.*, or 10·9 per cent., as compared with February, 1905, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 36,776,983*l.*, or an increase of 3,888,197*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 3,512,060*l.*, or 13·9 per cent., as compared with February, 1905, whilst there is an increase of 376,137*l.*, or 4·9 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

### II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for February, 1906, as compared with the corresponding months of 1905 and 1904, according to the different categories of merchandise :—

\* Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1906," published at pp. 253-5 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th February, 1906, for information as to the changes which have been made in these accounts.

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1906.***Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.\***

	Month ended February.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1904.
	1904.	1905.	1906.		
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
A. Grain and flour ... ..	5,238,933	4,623,404	4,256,291	— 367,113	— 982,642
B. Meat, including animals for food ...	3,727,386	3,930,283	3,956,697	+ 26,414	+ 229,311
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable ... ..	4,890,150	4,151,483	5,039,808	+ 888,325	+ 149,658
2. Dutiable ... ..	3,103,071	3,455,997	3,050,602	— 405,395	— 52,469
D. Tobacco ... ..	310,484	241,994	269,502	+ 27,548	— 40,942
Total, Class I. ... ..	£ 17,270,024	16,403,161	16,572,940	+ 169,779	— 697,084
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel ...	134	113	1,257	+ 1,144	+ 1,123
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	233,616	357,188	492,130	+ 134,942	+ 208,514
C. Other metallic ores... ..	546,000	618,579	650,151	+ 31,572	+ 104,151
D. Wood and timber ... ..	937,192	665,171	931,823	+ 266,652	— 5,369
E. Cotton ... ..	5,265,011	3,779,867	5,251,189	+ 1,471,322	+ 13,822
F. Wool ... ..	2,922,673	4,032,780	3,673,667	— 359,173	+ 750,934
G. Other textile materials ... ..	1,523,823	1,214,619	1,659,011	+ 444,392	+ 139,188
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums ... ..	2,113,393	1,813,900	2,187,281	+ 373,381	+ 73,888
I. Hides and undressed skins ... ..	530,891	578,636	745,151	+ 166,515	+ 214,260
J. Materials for paper making ... ..	186,601	208,628	229,004	+ 20,376	+ 42,403
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,764,706	1,868,017	2,357,523	+ 489,506	+ 592,817
Total, Class II. ... ..	£ 16,074,040	15,137,498	18,178,127	+ 3,040,629	+ 2,104,087
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	567,283	584,203	769,010	+ 184,807	+ 201,727
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	1,605,175	1,741,866	2,034,213	+ 292,347	+ 429,038
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	299,972	263,580	298,037	+ 34,457	— 1,935
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and tele. graph and telephone wire) ...	67,741	91,332	103,922	+ 12,590	+ 36,181
E. Machinery ... ..	326,570	317,689	374,286	+ 56,597	+ 47,716
F. Ships (new) ... ..	2,468	204	253	+ 49	— 2,215
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	153,963	136,451	157,742	+ 21,291	+ 3,779
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton ... ..	565,283	635,709	841,557	+ 205,848	+ 276,274
2. Wool ... ..	989,170	1,052,832	1,103,344	+ 50,512	+ 114,174
3. Other materials ... ..	1,546,843	1,726,614	1,821,588	+ 94,974	+ 274,740
I. Apparel ... ..	240,950	285,692	299,804	+ 14,112	+ 58,854
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	726,638	723,485	699,374	— 24,111	— 27,264
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves) ... ..	845,213	826,227	994,183	+ 167,956	+ 148,970
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	341,516	294,923	353,229	+ 58,306	+ 11,713
M. Paper... ..	385,416	377,917	441,260	+ 63,343	+ 55,844
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,921,755	2,054,728	2,273,890	+ 219,162	+ 352,135
Total, Class III. ... ..	£ 10,585,961	11,113,452	12,565,692	+ 1,452,240	+ 1,979,731
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassi- fied (including Parcel Post) £</b>	<b>180,494</b>	<b>190,826</b>	<b>212,076</b>	<b>+ 21,250</b>	<b>+ 31,582</b>
Total value of Imports	£ 44,110,519	42,844,937	47,528,835	+ 4,683,898	+ 3,418,316

\* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1906.*

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of February, 1905, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

		Increases.	
		£	£
I.	A.	Wheat meal and flour ... ..	53,865
		Barley ... ..	131,633
		Maize ... ..	149,437
	B.	Beef, fresh ... ..	50,799
		Bacon ... ..	199,669
		Butter ... ..	384,404
		Eggs ... ..	86,616
		Fish, cured or salted ... ..	112,636
	C1.	Oranges ... ..	85,045
		Hops ... ..	59,307
		Lard ... ..	87,356
	C2.	Tea ... ..	71,131
	B.	Iron ore ... ..	133,012
		Wood and timber, hewn ... ..	98,881
	D.	Wood and timber, sawn or split ... ..	136,896
II.	E.	Cotton, raw ... ..	1,459,041
		Flax, dressed and undressed ... ..	214,907
	G.	Jute ... ..	210,496
		Decreases.	
		£	£
I.	A.	Wheat ... ..	736,298
	B.	Cattle, live ... ..	62,228
		Mutton, fresh ... ..	183,001
	C1.	Cheese ... ..	55,372
C2.		Sugar, unrefined ... ..	422,717
		Increases.	
		£	£
II.	H.	Cotton seed ... ..	244,615
		Petroleum ... ..	101,922
	I.	Undressed furs, unenumerated ... ..	75,067
	K.	Caoutchouc ... ..	391,497
		Copper regulus and precipitate ... ..	145,543
	B.	Copper unwrought and part wrought ... ..	92,789
	E.	Machinery of all kinds ... ..	56,597
	H1.	Cotton yarns and fabrics ... ..	205,848
	H2.	Woollen and worsted stuffs ... ..	59,116
	H3.	Jute manufactures ... ..	85,242
	K.	Leather ... ..	164,795
	M.	Paper, unprinted ... ..	53,400
		Motor cycles and parts thereof ... ..	143,671
	N.	Oil seed cake, not sweetened ... ..	71,159
		Decreases.	
		£	£
II.	C.	Silver ore ... ..	52,381
	F.	Sheep or lambs' wool ... ..	326,190
		Mohair ... ..	49,503
	H3.	Silk manufactures of all sorts ... ..	53,616

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versa*, may be noted, viz.:—

		Increase.		Decrease.	
		£	...	£	...
I.	C1.	Apples, raw ... ..	£18,987...	76,132	cwts.
		Onions ... ..	250,227 bushels...	£18,117	
	C2.	Sugar refined and sugar candy ... ..	337,769 cwts. ...	£46,215	
II.	G.	Hemp dressed and undressed ... ..	£16,769... ..	65	tons
	H.	Rape seed ... ..	£1,330... ..	2,097	quarters,
		Lac dye, seed lac, &c. ... ..	£1,887... ..	831	cwts.
	I.	Seals skins undressed ... ..	1,622 number.	£18,219	
III.	A.	Steel forgings ... ..	88 tons ... ..	£1,222	
	B.	Tin ... ..	£10,338... ..	691	tons.
		Zinc, crude, in cakes ... ..	£18,920... ..	117	"
	C.	Watches ... ..	6,693 number.	£3,703	
	J.	Brimstone ... ..	3,902 cwts. ...	£1,110	

### III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of February, 1906, as compared with the corresponding month of 1905 and 1904, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1906.***Exports of British Produce.\***

	Month ended February.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1904.
	1904.	1905.	1906.		
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
A. Grain and flour ... ..	119,428	163,588	211,544	+	47,956
B. Meat, including animals for food ...	41,838	41,402	65,896	+	24,494
C. Other food and drink ... ..	822,850	862,904	954,000	+	91,096
D. Tobacco ... ..	61,823	73,936	81,015	+	7,079
Total, Class I. ... ..	£ 1,045,939	1,141,830	1,312,455	+	170,625
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke and manufactured fuel ...	1,946,110	2,086,031	2,200,560	+	114,529
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	28,770	40,905	31,255	—	9,650
C. Other metallic ores... ..	11,723	10,124	5,506	—	4,618
D. Wood and timber ... ..	2,772	10,356	3,610	—	6,746
E. Cotton ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool ... ..	160,519	126,673	253,214	+	126,541
G. Other textile materials ... ..	10,954	20,410	8,785	—	11,625
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums... ..	215,889	186,214	200,217	+	14,003
I. Hides and undressed skins ... ..	126,265	161,622	188,081	+	26,459
J. Materials for paper making ... ..	32,382	44,250	52,993	+	8,743
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	153,616	149,691	150,505	+	814
Total, Class II. ... ..	£ 2,689,000	2,836,276	3,094,726	+	258,450
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	2,065,822	2,157,868	2,912,090	+	754,222
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	552,519	560,578	712,590	+	152,012
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	352,425	367,274	436,604	+	69,330
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and tele- graph and telephone wire) ... ..	102,174	147,436	246,299	+	98,863
E. Machinery ... ..	1,504,471	1,471,466	1,890,911	+	419,445
F. Ships (new) ... ..	227,827	456,624	820,265	+	363,641
G. Manufactures of wood and tim- ber (including furniture) ... ..	98,023	82,554	91,726	+	9,172
H. Yarns and textile fabrics— 1. Cotton... ..	7,149,195	7,583,263	7,791,988	+	208,725
2. Wool ... ..	2,393,883	2,579,898	2,928,462	+	348,564
3. Other materials ... ..	1,079,452	1,050,413	1,096,212	+	45,799
I. Apparel ... ..	535,662	497,718	574,769	+	77,051
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	1,179,487	1,226,006	1,225,021	—	985
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves) ... ..	383,617	426,649	494,314	+	67,665
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	266,608	233,550	252,642	+	19,092
M. Paper... ..	160,528	150,461	145,800	—	4,661
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	1,840,494	1,963,180	2,406,627	+	443,447
Total, Class III. ... ..	£ 19,892,187	20,954,938	24,026,320	+	3,071,382
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclasi- fied (including Parcel Post) £</b>	<b>267,687</b>	<b>336,019</b>	<b>347,622</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>11,603</b>
Total value of Exports of British produce... ..	£ 23,894,813	25,269,063	28,781,123	+	3,512,060

**Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.**

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value ... ..	7,405,341	7,619,723	7,995,860	+	376,137

\* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1906.*

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in February, 1906, with those of February, 1905, the chief increases and decreases are as follow :—

**Increases.**

			£
II.	A.	Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel ... ..	114,529
	F.	Wool, sheep or lambs' ... ..	64,582
III.	A.	Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	754,222
	B.	Copper, unwrought and wrought ... ..	59,121
	C.	Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments, &c. ... ..	69,330
	D.	Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery, and telegraph and telephone wire) ... ..	98,863
	E.	{ Steam engines ... ..	118,974
		{ Machinery other than steam engines or electrical ... ..	292,709
	F.	Ships, new ... ..	363,641
		{ Cotton yarn ... ..	154,523
	H1.	{ " lace and patent net ... ..	53,660
		{ " thread, for sewing ... ..	65,621
H2.		{ Wool tops ... ..	126,415
		{ Worsted yarn ... ..	117,547
I.		Apparel, including hats and bonnets ... ..	77,051
N.		Railway trucks, &c., not of iron ... ..	181,163

**Decreases.**

			£
III.	H1.	{ Cotton piece-goods... ..	90,831
		{ Sulphate of copper ... ..	49,218
		{ Manure, chemical ... ..	52,570

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz. :—

			Increase.		Decrease.
I.	C.	{ Salt, rock and white (except table salt) ... ..	2,097 tons	...	£3,464
		{ Spirits, British and Irish... ..	£24,046	...	17,112 pf. galls.
	D.	Tobacco (and snuff) ... ..	£7,079	...	84,250 lbs.
II.	I.	Skins and furs undressed ... ..	£25,603	...	1,291,299 No.
III.	H2.	{ Woollen tissues ... ..	£35,977	...	222,100 yds.
		{ Worsted " ... ..	£14,903	...	35,500 "
	H3.	{ Jute piece goods ... ..	£13,797	...	567,200 "
		{ Linen " ... ..	£2,036	...	1,134,700 "
	N.	{ " thread for sewing ... ..	£2,664	...	1,700 lbs.
		{ Gunpowder ... ..	£1,728	...	2,031 cwts.
		Books, printed ... ..	2,999 cwts.	...	£17,632

**IV.—TRADE DURING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1906.**

The following table shows the value of the Imports from foreign countries and British possessions during the two months ended 28th February last, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years :—

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1906.***Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.\***

	Two months ended February.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1904.
	1904.	1905.	1906.		
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
A. Grain and flour ... ..	10,481,197	9,697,681	9,487,777	— 209,904	— 993,420
B. Meat, including animals for food	7,785,771	8,011,528	8,383,057	+ 371,529	+ 597,286
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable... ..	9,869,422	9,282,126	10,916,705	+ 1,634,579	+ 1,047,283
2. Dutiable ... ..	6,512,465	7,502,454	6,859,578	— 642,876	+ 347,113
D. Tobacco ... ..	727,926	648,280	631,700	— 16,580	— 96,226
Total, Class I. ... ..	£ 35,376,781	35,142,069	36,278,817	+ 1,136,748	+ 902,036
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke and manufactured fuel	942	1,115	8,291	+ 7,176	+ 7,349
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	653,145	829,493	1,101,304	+ 271,811	+ 448,159
C. Other metallic ores... ..	1,205,004	1,323,535	1,365,733	+ 42,198	+ 160,729
D. Wood and timber ... ..	1,976,207	1,403,022	2,041,584	+ 638,562	+ 65,377
E. Cotton ... ..	12,025,221	9,934,279	13,134,764	+ 3,200,485	+ 1,109,543
F. Wool ... ..	5,323,617	7,331,554	7,299,092	— 31,562	+ 1,976,375
G. Other textile materials ... ..	3,237,608	2,872,666	3,272,524	+ 399,858	+ 34,916
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums ... ..	4,275,199	3,633,073	4,143,964	+ 510,891	— 131,235
I. Hides and undressed skins ... ..	1,077,104	1,209,830	1,557,194	+ 347,364	+ 480,090
J. Materials for paper making ... ..	470,416	482,372	565,167	+ 82,795	+ 94,751
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	3,537,950	3,736,507	4,107,842	+ 371,335	+ 569,892
Total, Class II. ... ..	£ 53,782,413	52,757,446	58,598,359	+ 5,840,913	+ 4,815,946
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	1,189,806	1,230,900	1,713,915	+ 483,015	+ 524,109
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	3,085,822	3,466,941	4,317,140	+ 850,199	+ 1,231,318
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	590,393	542,884	606,416	+ 63,532	+ 16,023
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and tele- graph and telephone wire) ...	146,164	173,641	208,764	+ 35,123	+ 62,600
E. Machinery ... ..	633,103	650,535	751,373	+ 100,838	+ 118,270
F. Ships (new) ... ..	2,855	721	313	— 408	— 2,542
G. Manufactures of wood and tim- ber (including furniture) ... ..	317,542	277,929	306,239	+ 28,310	— 11,303
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton ... ..	1,119,222	1,263,961	1,688,013	+ 424,052	+ 568,791
2. Wool ... ..	1,880,137	2,114,835	2,242,654	+ 127,819	+ 362,517
3. Other materials ... ..	3,104,762	3,323,190	3,602,944	+ 279,754	+ 498,182
I. Apparel ... ..	429,564	528,500	563,707	+ 35,207	+ 134,143
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	1,369,545	1,469,204	1,529,624	+ 60,420	+ 160,079
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves) ... ..	1,665,384	1,703,933	1,951,240	+ 247,307	+ 285,856
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	671,036	620,888	720,236	+ 99,348	+ 49,200
M. Paper ... ..	762,298	787,969	920,012	+ 132,043	+ 157,714
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	3,729,915	4,193,393	4,539,326	+ 345,933	+ 809,411
Total, Class III. ... ..	£ 20,697,548	22,349,424	25,661,916	+ 3,312,492	+ 4,964,368
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Un classi- fied (including Parcel Post) ...</b>	386,297	362,458	465,573	+ 103,115	+ 79,276
Total ... ..	£ 90,243,039	90,611,397	101,004,665	+ 10,393,268	+ 10,761,626

\* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce, also of foreign and colonial produce, during the first two months of 1906, as compared with 1905 and 1904, is as shown in the following table:—

*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1906.***Exports of British Produce.\***

	Two months ended February.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1906 as compared with 1904.
	1904.	1905.	1906.		
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—</b>					
A. Grain and flour ... ..	£ 238,579	£ 315,526	£ 430,693	+	115,167
B. Meat, including animals for food.	97,716	93,504	164,761	+	71,257
C. Other food and drink ... ..	1,758,225	1,853,853	2,060,449	+	206,596
D. Tobacco ... ..	124,252	154,676	166,633	+	11,957
Total, Class I. ... ..	£ 2,218,772	£ 2,417,559	£ 2,822,536	+	404,977
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—</b>					
A. Coal, coke, and manufactured fuel	3,941,359	4,062,764	4,473,391	+	410,627
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	64,717	69,846	77,990	+	8,144
C. Other metallic ores... ..	18,723	20,720	22,954	+	2,234
D. Wood and timber ... ..	6,156	17,257	9,337	—	7,920
E. Cotton ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool ... ..	290,418	327,089	429,904	+	102,815
G. Other textile materials ... ..	18,729	56,199	21,526	—	14,673
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums ... ..	431,000	358,461	409,697	+	51,236
I. Hides and undressed skins ... ..	266,069	325,391	472,311	+	146,920
J. Materials for paper making ... ..	66,894	87,525	107,472	+	19,947
K. Miscellaneous ... ..	312,794	339,859	333,210	—	6,649
Total, Class II. ... ..	£ 5,416,859	£ 5,645,111	£ 6,357,792	+	712,681
<b>III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—</b>					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ... ..	4,383,664	4,462,831	5,979,012	+	1,516,181
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof ... ..	1,069,471	1,109,390	1,519,293	+	409,903
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments ... ..	740,594	758,003	918,559	+	160,556
D. Electrical goods and apparatus (other than machinery and tele- graph and telephone wire) ... ..	332,110	263,497	549,429	+	235,932
E. Machinery ... ..	2,946,241	3,063,578	4,031,869	+	933,291
F. Ships (new) ... ..	442,093	584,200	1,018,503	+	434,303
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ... ..	207,552	191,697	217,586	+	25,889
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton ... ..	14,086,575	14,884,622	16,540,901	+	1,656,279
2. Wool ... ..	4,895,454	5,389,834	6,110,356	+	720,522
3. Other materials ... ..	2,182,164	2,079,581	2,322,575	+	242,994
I. Apparel ... ..	1,115,691	994,612	1,248,143	+	233,531
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours ... ..	2,283,276	2,409,720	2,536,427	+	126,707
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves) ... ..	723,030	842,675	996,858	+	154,183
L. Earthenware and glass ... ..	486,359	483,801	547,856	+	64,055
M. Paper... ..	307,776	308,054	323,216	+	15,162
N. Miscellaneous ... ..	3,540,631	3,675,211	4,765,720	+	1,030,509
Total, Class III. ... ..	£ 39,742,681	£ 41,506,306	£ 49,626,303	+	8,119,997
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassi- fied (including Parcel Post) £</b>	599,866	689,864	749,303	+	59,439
Total value... ..	£ 47,978,178	£ 50,258,840	£ 59,555,934	+	9,297,094

**Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.**

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value ... ..	13,117,341	13,733,610	15,411,715	+	2,324,374

\* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship and are known as the "free on board" values.

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*Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in February, 1906.*

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**V.—SHIPPING IN FEBRUARY, 1906.**

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended 28th February, 1906, amounted to 2,800,035 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,870,448 tons, as against 2,698,370 tons entered and 3,693,272 tons cleared in the month of February, 1905. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during February, 1906, amounted to 2,527,832 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,472,158 tons, as against 2,489,965 tons entered, and 2,475,711 tons cleared in February, 1905.

**VI.—TWO MONTHS' SHIPPING (JANUARY-FEBRUARY).**

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the two months ended 28th February, 1906, amounted to 6,081,666 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 8,086,780 tons, as against 5,631,509 tons entered and 7,413,859 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1905. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the two months ended 28th February, 1906, amounted to 5,166,477 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 5,088,549 tons, as against 5,108,704 tons entered and 5,054,201 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1905.

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**ROYAL COMMISSION ON CANALS AND WATERWAYS.**

The King has been pleased to appoint a Royal Commission to enquire into the Canals and Inland Navigations of the United Kingdom and to report on—

1. Their present condition and financial position.
2. The causes which have operated to prevent the carrying out of improvements by private enterprise, and whether such causes are removable by legislation.
3. Facilities, improvements and extensions desirable in order to complete a system of through communication by water between centres of commercial, industrial or agricultural importance, and between such centres and the sea.
4. The prospect of benefit to the trade of the country compatible with a reasonable return on the probable cost.
5. The expediency of canals being made or acquired by public bodies or trusts, and the methods by which funds for the purpose could be obtained and secured, and what should be the system of control and management of such bodies or trusts.

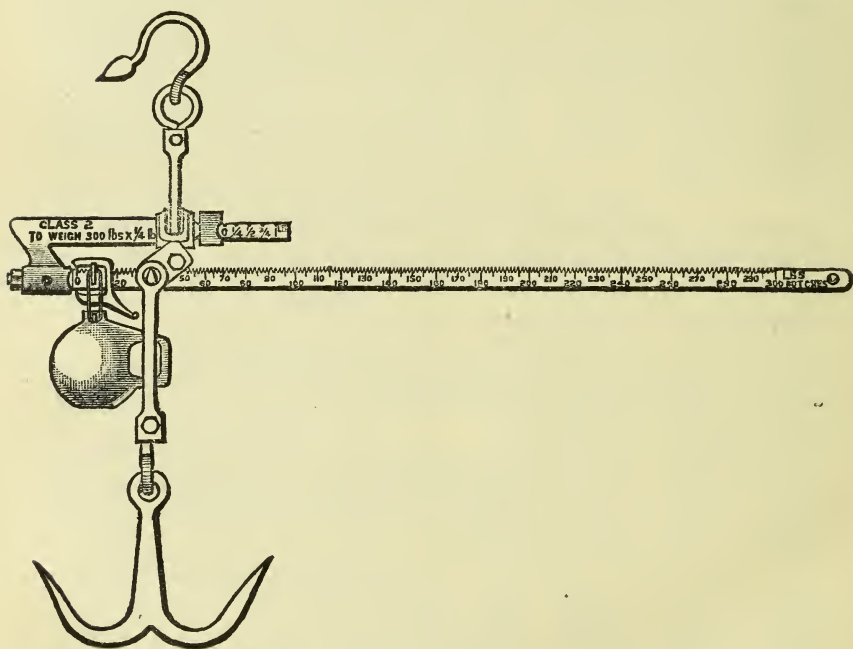
The following are the Royal Commissioners :—The Right Hon. Lord Shuttleworth, Chairman; The Lord Kenyon; The Lord Brassey, K.C.B.; The Lord Farrer; The Right Hon. Sir John Dorington, Bart.; Sir John Brunner, Bart., M.P.; Sir Francis Hopwood, K.C.B., C.M.G., Permanent Secretary to the Board of Trade; W. J. Crossley, Esq., M.P.; Russell Rea, Esq., M.P.; J. F. Remnant, Esq., M.P.; P. Snowden, Esq., M.P.; Henry Vivian, Esq., M.P.; L. A. Waldron, Esq., M.P.; R. C. H. Davison, Esq., C.E.; J. P. Griffith, Esq., C.E.; Dr. A. J. Herbertson; J. C. Inglis, Esq., C.E.; H. F. Killick, Esq.; and John Wilson, Esq. W. B. Duffield, Esq., M.A., Barrister-at-Law, will act as Secretary.

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## NOTICES UNDER THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT, 1904.

The following are copies of Notices (Nos. 20, 21, and 22) giving the results of the examination and testing of certain patterns of weighing instruments, &c., for use in trade, which have been submitted to the Board of Trade under the provisions of Section 6 of the Weights and Measures Act, 1904 :—

(20)

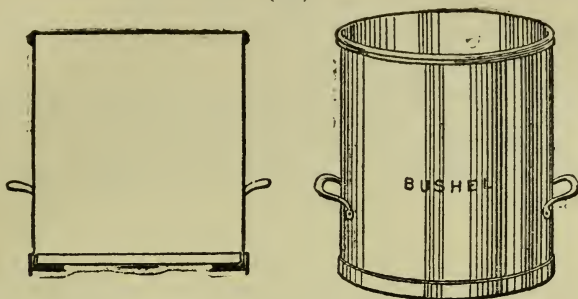


ONE-EIGHTH FULL SIZE (APPROXIMATELY).

The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a weighing instrument arranged to weigh from 0 to 300 lbs. by  $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. and described as a butchers' steelyard, of the form herewith shown, submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, but as the result of the examination was not satisfactory, the Board have declined to issue a certificate of approval.

*Notices under the Weights and Measures Act, 1904.*

(21)

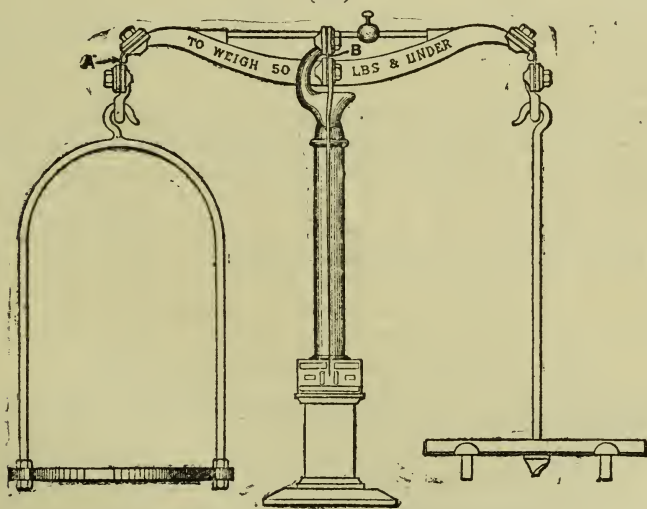


APPROXIMATE INTERNAL DEPTH, 15 INCHES.

" " DIAMETER,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  INCHES.

The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a steel measure of capacity of a bushel of the form and dimensions herewith shown, submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, and have issued a certificate that the pattern is not such as to facilitate the perpetration of fraud. The notice issued in May last (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th May, 1905, p. 350), with regard to a similar pattern of a bushel measure is now cancelled.

(22)



A.—End bearing clamped fibre strap instead of ordinary knife edge arrangement.

B.—Centre bearing clamped fibre strap instead of ordinary knife edge arrangement.

ONE-EIGHTH FULL SIZE.

The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a counter stand scale with fibre suspension of the form herewith shown, submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, but as the result of the examination was not satisfactory, the Board have declined to issue a certificate of approval.

### TRADE MARKS ACT, 1905.

The Trade Marks Act, 1905 (5 Edw. 7, Ch. 15) comes into operation on the 1st April next.

One of its earliest provisions (section 9) states the essentials which a Trade Mark must possess to enable it to be registered. This is somewhat wider than the existing provisions.

A provision (section 10) is inserted, which enables colour to be taken into account in considering the distinctiveness of a Trade Mark.

The procedure to obtain registration is not very substantially altered (sections 12 to 18) though provision is made that an applicant may know exactly all the grounds on which his Mark may possibly be rejected, and also to enable costs to be given against the loser in an opposition case.

The operations of disclaimer are not to extend beyond the actual Mark registered (section 15) and provision is made for cases where persons have honestly used similar Marks (section 21.)

Certain limitations are imposed on assignments (sections 22 to 27) and renewal is simplified (sections 28 to 31).

Non-user of a Mark is to be a cause of removal (section 37) and section 39 limits the power of removing a Mark which has long been on the register without challenge.

Provision is made for *vivâ voce* evidence in opposition cases (section 49), and by section 62 recognition is given to Marks which are not strictly Trade Marks, but more in the nature of Hall Marks.

The special provisions for Hallamshire are continued (section 63) and by section 64 statutory recognition is given to the Manchester Branch, and to the wishes of the Cotton Trade as to the proceedings in that Branch.

An important provision is made under section 68 as to the use of the Royal Arms by unauthorised persons.

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### NEW EUROPEAN CUSTOMS TARIFFS.

Adverting to the notice which appeared at pages 360 to 362 of the "Journal" for the 22nd February, under the above heading, the Board of Trade desire to direct attention to the fact that the interim editions of the New Customs Tariffs of Russia and Roumania, as modified by treaties, which were there referred to have now been issued. Copies may be obtained, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., the price of the Return relating to Russia [Cd. 2,857] being 9d., and of that relating to Roumania [Cd. 2,828] 7d. Special attention is directed to the explanatory notes prefixed to both returns.

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## AUSTRALIAN SUGAR BOUNTIES AND EXCISE TARIFF.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 404 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 26th November, 1903, respecting the granting of bounties to growers of sugar cane or beet under Act 4 of 1903 in the Australian Commonwealth, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of the "Sugar Bounty Act, 1905" (No. 23 of 1905) which was assented to on 21st December, 1905.

This Act provides that after 1st January, 1907, there shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to every grower of white-grown cane or beet within the Commonwealth, a **bounty** on all such cane or beet delivered for manufacture after that date and before 1st January, 1913, at the following rates:—

Sugar cane... 6s. per ton calculated on cane giving 10 per cent. of sugar, to be increased or decreased proportionately according to any variation from this standard.

Beet ... 60s. per ton on the actual sugar giving contents of the beet.

It is further provided, however, that the rates payable on all such cane or beet delivered during the years 1911 and 1912 shall be respectively two-thirds and one-third of the aforesaid rates.

It is also provided in the Act that "every grower of white-grown sugar who claims the bounty payable under this Act shall, in making such claim, certify to the Minister the rate of wages paid to any labour employed by him, other than the labour of members of his family. If the Minister finds that such rate of wages is below the standard rate paid in the district in which the sugar is grown, to similar white labour engaged in that industry, then the Minister may withhold the whole or any part of the bounty payable."

The employment of any aboriginal native of Australia in the growing of sugar cane or beet is not to prejudice any claim to bounty that may be made. Special permission may also be granted for the employment of white half-castes on the white plantations.

The Board of Trade have also received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of the "Excise Tariff, 1905" (No. 24 of 1905), which was assented to by the Federal Parliament on the same day, viz., 21st December, 1905, as the Sugar Bounty Act of 1905.

This Excise Act provides that the **excise** duty imposed on sugar by the Excise Tariff of 1902 shall be increased from 3s. to 4s. per cwt. of manufactured sugar from 1st January, 1907, to 1st January, 1913, provided that the excise duty payable on sugar produced from cane delivered for manufacture in 1911 and 1912 shall be two-thirds and one-third of the above rate respectively.

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## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

### FRANCE.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Bill increasing the present rates of duty leviable on concentrated and dried milk imported into France has passed the Chamber of Deputies and is now under the consideration of the Customs Commission of the Senate. Should the Bill become law in its present shape, the rates of duty leviable under the "Minimum" Tariff on the articles in question will be as follows:—

		Minimum Tariff.	
		Frs.	cts.
Concentrated milk—			
Pure	... 100 kilogs.	20	00
With an addition of sugar to the extent of—			
Less than 40 per cent.	100 kilogs.	20	00
40 per cent. and over, but less than 50 per cent.	... 100 kilogs.	plus 40 per cent. of the duty on refined sugar.	20
		plus 50 per cent. of the duty on refined sugar.	40
Dried milk, in powder or otherwise	..	40	00

NOTE.—The duty on refined sugar is at the rate of 31 francs per 100 kilogs. net. In addition, refined sugar pays a "refining tax" at the rate of 2 francs per 100 kilogs.

### SPAIN.

With reference to previous notices in the "Board of Trade Journal" on the subject of the payment of the duties leviable on certain articles under the Spanish Customs Tariff in gold, and especially to the notice which appeared on p. 597 of the "Journal" for the 29th December, 1904, it is to be noted that the "Gaceta de Madrid" for the 25th February contains the text of a Royal Decree authorising the presentation to the Cortes of a Bill providing that *all* import and export duties shall be levied in gold.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The "Commonwealth Gazette" for 20th January last contains a copy of Supplement No. 57 to the Customs Tariff Guide, dated 15th January, 1906, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Commonwealth. The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Barol—containing a proportion of metallic oxide— As other articles ... ..	Free.
Cement stone machine (similar to press for moulding hollow concrete building blocks)— As machine tools ... ..	Free.
Clippers—hair, plated, with unplated blades— As cutlery, n.e.i. ... ..	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
*Hats and caps—sou'-westers, sewn— As hats and caps, sewn ... ..	30 % "
Labels, celluloid, for furniture— As other articles ... ..	Free.
Powder—pea soup, and soup tablets— If containing meat— As meats, &c., potted or concentrated ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Otherwise— As vegetables, dried or concentrated ... ..	15 % "
Truss, rubber— As india-rubber manufactures, n.e.i. ... ..	15 % "
Tubes, iron, covered with mixed metal— As mixed metalware ... ..	15 % "

\* Revised decision.

A Customs Notice, dated 15th January last, has been received, notifying that, in accordance with the provisions of Customs Regulation No. 131, a drawback of duty will be allowed, subject to certain prescribed conditions, on the undermentioned imported materials used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth, upon the exportation of such manufactured articles:—

Telephone parts used in the manufacture of telephones within the Commonwealth.

A further Customs Notice, dated 16th January, has been received, stating that "Cocotine"—being used as a substitute for cocoa butter—will, on importation into the Commonwealth, be charged the same rate of duty as cocoa butter, viz., 1*d.* per lb.

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

#### NEW ZEALAND.

The "New Zealand Gazette" for 11th January last contains a Commissioner's Order (No. 792) dated 8th January, 1906, giving Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand. The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
*Brass sheets polished on one side ... ..	Free.
Fusel oil—	
As chemicals, n.o.e. ... ..	15% <i>ad. val.</i>
*Iron sheets, enamelled—	
As manufactures n.o.e. of metal ... ..	20% „
Launches and motor boats of steel or wood—	
As n.o.e. ... ..	Free.
Milk powder, peptogenic—	
As druggist's sundries, n.o.e. ... ..	15% <i>ad. val.</i>
Magneto-electric ignition parts of gas engine :	
If attached to the gas engine—	
As part of gas engine ... ..	Free.
If unattached to the engine—	
As machinery, electric, and appliances... ..	10% <i>ad. val.</i>
Pipes of wood, wire-wound, for water supply service—	
As woodenware, n.o.e. ... ..	20% „
Plumbago, in powder—	
As n.o.e. ... ..	Free.
Sateen printed and striped sleeve-linings, 39 in. by 40 in., of such colours, patterns, and textures as may be approved by the Commissioners ... ..	Free.
Speed gear for motor car :	
If attached to oil engine—	
As part of oil engine ... ..	Free.
If unattached—	
As machinery, n.o.e. ... ..	20% <i>ad. val.</i>
Tin sheets, or stamped parts of canisters lettered or embossed so as to take the place of printed or embossed labels—	
As lacquered metalware ... ..	25% <i>ad. val.</i>
Tin tops, lever, for bottles... ..	Free.

\* Revised decision.

#### NATAL.

The "Natal Government Gazette" for 23rd January, 1906, contains a copy of the "Firearms and Ammunition Act, 1905" (No. 1 of 1906), which amends and consolidates the Laws relating to the import and sale of firearms and ammunition in the Colony.

The Act, which was proclaimed and assented to under Proc. No. 8 of 1906, of 17th January, 1906, provides, *inter alia*, that no person (except in certain cases for the purposes of personal defence or sport) may import any firearms into the Colony without having

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*


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**NATAL**—*continued.*

first obtained a licence in the prescribed form from the Controller of Customs.

No ammunition shall be imported into Natal, whether by land or sea, except by the Imperial or Colonial Government, and except as specially provided for by the Act. Persons resident in Natal may, on obtaining permission from the Controller of Arms, import cartridges requisite for any firearm registered in his name, and containing either gunpowder and ball, or gunpowder and shot, but not exceeding 1,000 in any 12 months, of which not more than 500 may be ball ammunition.

No natives or Asiatics may possess any firearm or ammunition without a permit from the Secretary for Native Affairs.

The present Act also provides that the master of every ship arriving at any port in the Colony shall, within 24 hours after arrival, make a special report in writing to the Collector or other Officer of Customs, of the number and description of firearms, cartridges, or other ammunition on board such vessel—specifying the firearms and gunpowder which form part of the cargo, and those which belong to the ship as part of the equipment.

A copy of the Act may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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**JAMAICA.**

With reference to the notice on p. 161 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 27th April, 1905, respecting the **Repeal of Surtax.** imposition, under Law No. 3 of 1905, of a surtax of 6 per cent. on the duties payable on all goods imported into Jamaica, the Board of Trade have now received information from the Colonial Office that the above-mentioned Law No. 3 of 1905 has been repealed, with effect from 27th February last.

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**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.**

The Board of Trade have received, from the Collector of Customs at Trinidad, a copy of an Ordinance (No. 38 of 1905) providing for revised export duties, the proceeds to be applied "in aid of immigration," upon various articles raised or manufactured in the Island of Trinidad, and shipped to places beyond the limits of the Colony during the year 1906.

The following statement gives, for purposes of comparison, both the export duties imposed by the present Ordinance, and those which were previously in force:—

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO—continued.**

Articles.						Export Duties.	
						Old Rates.	New Rates.
						<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Sugar...	...	...	...	...	... per 1,000 lbs.	3 10	3 6
Molasses	...	...	...	...	...per 100 galls.	3 1	3 1
Rum ...	...	...	...	...	...	9 4	9 4
Cocoa...	...	...	...	...	... per 100 lbs.	} 0 5½	0 3½
Coffee	...	...	...	...	... "		
Cocoanuts	...	...	...	...	... per 1,000		
Copra...	...	...	...	...	...per 1,000 lbs.	1 8	1 0

**ITALY.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a circular has recently been addressed from the Italian Ministry of the Interior to the Prefectures throughout Italy, stating that after 31st December next, Customs entry will not be granted to foreign medicaments (patent medicines, specifics, &c.) unless the consent of the Superior Council of Public Health has been previously obtained, in accordance with Article 14 of the preliminary regulations to the Italian Customs Tariff. The circular points out that hitherto the importation of foreign medicines without the consent of the Council of Public Health has been permitted as an act of pure favour; but that owing to the ever increasing importation of quack medicines it has been decided to enforce the regulations on and after 1st January, 1907.

**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**

The "Moniteur Belge" for the 2nd March contains the text of a Belgian Law putting into force the new commercial treaty between Belgium and Austria-Hungary, which was concluded on the 12th February, 1906. The following is a translation of the tariff schedule annexed to the treaty containing the reductions in the rates of duty leviable under the new Customs tariff accorded by Austria-Hungary to Belgium. These reductions will be applicable to similar products imported from the United Kingdom in virtue of the Austro-British treaty of 1876:—

**New Commercial  
Treaty with  
Belgium.—  
Reductions in  
new Austro-  
Hungarian Tariff.**

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***AUSTRIA-HUNGARY**—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under new Treaty.
		kronen.
<i>Ex 35</i>	Grapes, fresh, for the table, by parcel post ... ..	Free.
<i>Ex 37 a-c</i>	Fruits, not mentioned elsewhere, fresh—	
	1. Apples, pears, and quinces—	
	(a) In bulk ... ..	"
	(b) In sacks—	
	Of at least 50 kilogs. gross weight—	
	From 1st September to 30th November ...	"
	From 1st December to 31st August ...	100 kilogs. 2 00
	Of less than 50 kilogs. gross weight ...	" 2 00
	2. Plums (of the native plum tree)—	
	From 1st September to 30th November ...	Free.
	From 1st December to 31st August ...	100 kilogs. 2 40
	3. Other fruits not specially mentioned (except apricots, peaches, cherries, griottes, strawberries, and other plums) ... ..	Free.
	<i>Note.</i> —Apples, pears, and quinces imported in bulk or in sacks of at least 50 kilogs. gross weight in waggons divided into sections, will be considered as fruit in bulk or in sacks respectively, on condition that the waggons have not more than 8 sections. The sections may be covered or draped with straw or paper or even prepared with beds of straw.	
<i>Ex 56 a-c</i>	Living plants (even in ordinary pots, tubs, &c.)—	
	Palms, laurels, azaleas, forest plants ... ..	"
<i>Ex 73</i>	Poultry of all kinds (except winged game)—	
	Dead, also cleaned, plucked or with their extremities removed ... ..	100 kilogs. 16 00
<i>Ex 76</i>	Oysters ... ..	" 40 00
	Lobsters ... ..	" 60 00
<i>Ex 95</i>	Stearic acid (stearine) ... ..	" 14 00
103	Linseed oil and other fatty oils not specially mentioned, in casks, leather bags and bladders, except oil varnishes ... ..	" 7 50
<i>Ex 104</i>	Maize, poppy seed, sesamum, ground-nut, beech-nut and sunflower oils, in casks, leather bags and bladders ... ..	" 15 00
	<i>Note to Nos. 103 and 104.</i> —Castor oil and ground-nut oil, for technical uses, in casks, barrels, leather bags or bladders, denaturated under the control of Custom-houses specially authorised ... ..	
<i>Ex 132</i>	Meat extract—	" 2 00
	Solid ... ..	" 72 00
	Liquid ... ..	" 36 00
<i>Ex 183</i>	Cotton yarn, single, unbleached—	
<i>Ex (r)</i>	Above No. 80 and up to No. 90 English ... ..	" 33 00
	Above No. 90 English ... ..	" 28 00
<i>Ex 184</i>	Cotton yarn, double, unbleached—	
<i>Ex (d) &amp; (r)</i>	Above No. 60 English ... ..	" 28 00
<i>Ex 220</i>	Wool, combed ... ..	Free.
	<i>Note.</i> —Combed wool weighing more than 8 grammes per metre is dutiable under No. 220. Wool, combed, in the form of coarse half-finished threads is dutiable under No. 225.	

# Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

## AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—continued.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under new Treaty.
<i>Ex</i> 225	Woolen yarn, combed, not specially mentioned—	Kronen.
<i>Ex</i> (c)	Bleached, dyed, printed, single—	
	1. Up to No. 45 metric ... ..	100 kilogs. 29·00
<i>Ex</i> (d)	Bleached, dyed, printed, of two or more threads—	
	1. Up to No. 45 metric ... ..	„ 38·00
	<i>Note to No. 225 (b).</i> —Double yarn called “lasting,” of No. 40 up to No. 65 metric for the weaving of lasting, with permission and subject to the fulfilment of the conditions and regulations to be laid down ... ..	Free.
<i>Ex</i> 226	Carded yarn and spun yarn resembling carded yarn, not specially mentioned—	
<i>Ex</i> (c) 1	Dyed, single ... ..	100 kilogs. 25·00
	<i>Note to No. 226.</i> —Yarn lightly coloured with the object of rendering it distinct for the purpose of spinning (yarn intentionally clouded) is dutiable as yarn not coloured. These yarns are distinguished from dyed yarns by their dull colour which disappears on being washed in lukewarm water (15° C.)	
	<i>Notes to Nos. 225 and 226.</i> —(1) Yarn composed of two strands of different colour (yarn clouded at one end), which has received a certain degree of twisting by the self-actor, is considered as single and is dutiable under No. 225 (c) 1 or No. 226 (c) 1.	
	(2) Fancy yarn included under No. 225 (b) (d) and (e) 2 as well as under No. 226 (b) and (c) 2 ... ..	„ 25·00
	Yarn of two or more strands, unbleached, bleached, dyed, printed or mixed, the spinning of which is interrupted at regular intervals by knots, loops, spirals, &c., is included under this heading.	
	Yarns, strongly twisted which form such knots or loops by touching each other and which come straight again if they are pulled are not included, but are dutiable according to their kind.	
<i>Ex</i> 244	Artificial silk, twisted or not—	
(a)	Natural white, not dyed ... ..	Free.
<i>Ex</i> 274	Corsets of cotton tissue or of linen trimmed with cotton or linen lace, the width of which does not exceed 2 centimetres ... ..	Duty on the tissue forming the principal part, increased by 40 per cent.
	<i>Note to No. 274.</i> —Laces of silk or half-silk, as well as festoon-stitches forming a single row, have no effect on the tariff classification of corsets.	
<i>Ex</i> 329	<i>Note.</i> —Carding leather, as also card backs and card ribbons for the manufacture of cards, by permission and under control ... ..	100 kilogs. 20·00
<i>Ex</i> 344	Articles for industrial purposes—	
(b)	Transmission belts, flat; also driving reins:	
	1. Of bark tanned leather ... ..	„ 58·00
	2. Of oil dressed or mineral tanned leather; also of raw hide ... ..	„ 68·00
	<i>Note to 344 (b).</i> —Leather bands, simply cut, destined for the manufacture of transmission belts are dutiable as transmission belts, as also are sewing thongs, and thongs for hunting whips and carding machines.	

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

## AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—continued.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under new Treaty.
		Kronen.
<i>Ex (c)</i>	Transmission cords, of cut leather, not rounded, twisted or not ... ..	100 kilogs. 70·00
<i>Ex (d)</i>	Muffs for carding machines or spooling wheels, weavers' picker bends, fly-wheel plates for spinning and weaving, with permission and subject to the fulfilment of conditions and regulations to be laid down ... ..	" 65·00
<i>Ex 371</i>	Hollow glass with only the stoppers emery rubbed, or with smoothed edges or bottoms—	"
(a)	Natural colour or transparent ... ..	(gross wght.) 10·00
<i>Ex 375</i>	Mirror, sheet and plate glass, not specially mentioned, rough, not smoothed, polished, figured, foliated, nor coloured.—	
(b)	Sheet and plate glass and rough cast glass, not more than 5 mm. thick, the perimeter of each sheet being—	100 kilogs.
	(1) 240 c.m. or less ... ..	(gross wght.) 10·00
	(2) Over 240 and up to 400 c.m. ... ..	" 11·00
	(3) Over 400 c.m. ... ..	" 13·00
376	Mirror, sheet and plate glass not specially mentioned, coloured, not smoothed, polished, figured, nor foliated ... ..	" 24·00
377	Mirror, sheet and plate glass, not specially mentioned, smoothed, polished, figured, curved, even coloured or flashed—	
(a)	Not cut in facets, not foliated ... ..	" 28·00
(b)	Cut in facets but not foliated; cathedral glass, white or not ... ..	" 29·00
(c)	Foliated ... ..	" 30·00
<i>Ex 394</i>	Slabs of marble 16 c.m. or less in thickness, rough (hewn, split or sawn) ... ..	Free.
(a) 2	Slabs of limestone capable of taking a polish, called <i>d'Ecaussines</i> for billiard tables, merely smoothed down on one side, of a length of at least 2 metres, and of a breadth of at least 1 metre, by permission and subject to the fulfilment of conditions and regulations to be laid down ... ..	100 kilogs. 4·00
<i>Ex 394</i>	<i>Note to Nos. 391, 394, 396, 408 and 409.</i> —All articles made of a stone called <i>d'Ecaussines</i> , i.e., of a limestone capable of taking a polish, shall be dutiable as articles of marble.	
(b) 2		
<i>Ex 478</i>	Weapons and parts of weapons—	
<i>Ex (b)</i>	Fire-arms—	
	(2) Saloon guns ("Flobert" rifles) ... ..	" 50·00
	(3) Fire-arms (small arms) finished, other, finely worked or not—	
	Guns ... ..	" 130·00
	Revolvers ... ..	" 80·00
<i>Ex (c)</i>	Parts of small arms—	
	(3) Other finished parts of fire-arms, finely worked or not ... ..	130·00
<i>Ex 580</i>	Agricultural machinery and apparatus not specially mentioned—	
<i>Ex (c)</i>	Other (i.e., other than steam ploughs and threshing machines)—	
	(1) Of wood (i.e., 75 per cent. or more of wood) ... ..	" 15·00
<i>ex 598 (b)</i>	Hydrochloric acid ... ..	" 0·80
<i>ex 599 (c)</i>	Chlorate of potash and of soda ... ..	" 10·00

# *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

## SERVIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Servian Government have consented to maintain in force the rates of duty hitherto levied on cotton yarns. The rates in question are as follows:—

Cotton yarn of all kinds—					Dinars.
Up to No. 30 English—					100 kilogs.
Unbleached or bleached	...	...	...	...	18·00
Dyed or printed...	...	...	...	...	23·00
Above No. 30 English—					
Unbleached or bleached	...	...	...	...	27·00
Dyed or printed...	...	...	...	...	33·00

The following are the rates on other descriptions of cotton goods established by the new Servian Customs Tariff as modified by the recent Serbo-German Treaty—

					Dinars.
					100 kilogs.
Thread made up for retail sale (knitting and embroidery thread) on wooden reels, paper, &c., in balls or skeins, of one or more threads, unbleached, bleached, dyed or printed...					150·00
Plain tissues—					
(i.) Weighing more than 120 grammes per sq. metre and having in weft and warp in 1 sq. cm.—					
Up to 50 threads	...	...	...	...	80·00
From 50 to 80 threads	...	...	...	...	100·00
Above 80 threads	...	...	...	...	130·00
(ii.) Weighing from 60 to 120 grammes per sq. metre and having in weft and warp in 1 sq. cm.—					
Up to 50 threads	...	...	...	...	180·00
From 50 to 80 threads	...	...	...	...	210·00
Above 80 threads	...	...	...	...	250·00
(iii.) Weighing up to 60 grammes per sq. metre, and having in weft and warp in 1 sq. cm.—					
Up to 50 threads	...	...	...	...	130·00
From 50 to 80 threads	...	...	...	...	300·00
Above 80 threads	...	...	...	...	350·00
Velvet, plush and other similar tissues	...	...	...	...	170·00
Tulle, bobbinet, petinet, and other similar tissues	...	...	...	...	400·00
Congress stuffs, English tulle, canvas, and stiffened open-woven tissues for embroidery, under conditions prescribed by the Minister of Finance	...	...	...	...	100·00

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***SERVIA**—*continued.*

	Dinars. 100 kilogs.
Knitted and netted goods—	
In the piece, for sale by measure... ..	200·00
Ready-made articles: socks, gloves, hair-nets, furniture-nets, bird-nets, and other like nets, impregnated knitted stuffs and other articles, even combined with wire of common metal—	
(a) Cut out and sewn ... ..	300·00
(b) In lengths marked for cutting, but not cut or sewn ... ..	300·00
Others, not mentioned above ... ..	250·00
Lace of every kind, including chemical-lace ...	600·00
Embroideries on cotton tissues—	
Crocheted wares, hand or machine made embroi- deries, with or without applications—	
Of silk ... ..	700·00
Of other materials ... ..	600·00
“Flat stitch” embroideries made on ordinary or shuttle-embroidery machines, with or without applications—	
Of silk ... ..	700·00
Of other material ... ..	600·00
Ribbons of every kind ... ..	200·00
Trimmings and buttonmakers’ wares, even with foundations or insertions of wood, bone, or metal	125·00
Cord, twine, or string of cotton yarn of more than 1 mm. in thickness ... ..	150·00
<i>Note.</i> —Twine of less than 1 mm. in thickness is dutiable as yarn.	
Hose, combined or not with common metal, girths, wicks, knitted or woven ... ..	120·00
Tissues and other articles for technical purposes not otherwise mentioned in the tariff ... ..	30·00

**CHILE.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that a Chilean Law authorising the reduction of the import duty on refined sugar by 1s. 6d. per 100 kilogs. and the increase of the import duty on raw sugar by the same amount has been finally approved.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### BRAZIL.

The Brazilian "Diario Official" for the 8th December last contains the text of a Decree prohibiting the importation into Brazil of all goods bearing a false indication of origin, under the terms of the Madrid Convention of 1891. Such goods will be seized by the Customs authorities, or by the Federal judiciary authorities if the goods have passed out of the hands of the Customs. Goods seized in the Fiscal zone must be re-exported by the importers within thirty days, failing which they will be destroyed. Goods seized outside the Fiscal Zone will be rendered useless or destroyed. In either case importers will incur a fine of 50 per cent. of the value of the imported goods.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The Agent-General for New South Wales announces that the New South Wales Railway Commissioners of the State have issued their report for the quarter ended 31st December, 1905. The revenue received for the quarter amounted to 1,179,752*l.* being an increase of 158,713*l.* over the corresponding quarter of the previous year and notwithstanding this material increase (15·5 per cent.) the expenditure only increased by 18,357*l.*, leaving a net increase of 140,356*l.* Taking the half-year as from the 1st July, 1905, there is a net improvement to the extent of 246,386*l.*, or an aggregate increase of 280,367*l.* During the quarter some 67 miles of new railway were opened, making the total length of the system 3,370½ miles.

The major industry of the State is still the pastoral, and it was the most substantial contributor to the improved financial position. The carriage of live-stock showed an increase of 52,047*l.* and wool 44,155*l.* A very marked feature in the wool grown of late years is the improvement in the quality and weight of the fleeces, and those engaged in the industry are giving the subject special attention. The number of sheep in the State is estimated at 41,000,000, an increase of 7,000,000 on last year's figures, and it is asserted by experts that owing to the improvement in the fleeces, the total weight of wool grown will be equal to that when the maximum number of sheep were in the State, viz., 61,831,416 in 1891.

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*Shipping and Transport.*

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**RUSSIA.**

The following notes respecting Russian railways have been received from the British Commercial Agent at Moscow (Mr. H. Cooke):—

The "Svobodni Trud" (Moscow) of the 1st/14th February states that from that date regular passenger traffic with Siberia is to be restored, as it existed prior to the war.

**Resumption of  
Passenger Traffic  
with Siberia.**

The "Svobodni Trud" of the 2nd/15th February states that the Siberian Railway has resumed the carriage of goods of all categories without impediment to the station of Atchinsk inclusive. (Atchinsk is 409 versts east of Tomsk, and 166 west of Krassnoyarsk.)

**Resumption of  
Goods Traffic  
on Siberian  
Railway.**

The "Novoe Vremia" (St. Petersburg) states that the Treasury proposes to issue, in the course of 1906, 12,000,000 roubles, by way of loan, for the needs of the Chinese-Eastern Railway (the Manchurian line).

**Loan to  
Chinese-Eastern  
Railway.**

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**FRANCE.**

According to a report by the French Ministry of Public Works, published in the "Journal Officiel" of the 27th February, the length of railways (excluding light railways) open to traffic in France on the 31st December, 1904, was 39,588 kilometres (24,599 miles). The length of line opened during the year 1905 was 232 kilometres (144 miles), making a total length of 39,820 kilometres (24,743 miles) open to traffic on the 31st December, 1905.

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## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### GERMANY—KIAOCHOW.

The "Hamburgischen Correspondenten," in reviewing a recently published official report on Kiaochow, covering the year ended October, 1905, remarks on the rapid development of the Protectorate, which is attributed to the completion of the harbour and Shantung railway. Imported goods amounted in value to 16,300,000 dols. against about 12,000,000 dols. in 1903-04, the increase taking place chiefly in cotton goods, matches, and metal goods.

As regards mineral development, the coal production in the Fangtse district rose from 85,000 tons in 1904 to about 130,000 tons in 1905, and the sinking of new shafts is being undertaken in more than one district. A briquette factory has also been established.

The export of coal from the mines of the Shantung Mining Company has commenced, 14 steamers having taken about 11,000 tons. The Company are starting an iron foundry for utilising the ore from their mines. The development of the diamond district in the Itchousu zone is being proceeded with, as also is the systematic exploitation of the mica deposits.

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### OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Adverting to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 14th January, 1904, p. 85, it may be noted that according to the "Levant Herald" certain modifications have been made in the mining regulations in force in Turkey, in relation to prospecting. The principal modifications are as follows:—

#### Modifications in Mining Regulations.

*Article 23.*—No prospecting licence will be given to other than the person who obtained a permit for discovery of the same mine.

A further paragraph modifying Article 23 is to the effect that no official, Turkish or foreign, may be the concessionnaire of a mine situated within his own jurisdiction.

*Article 24.*—For the purpose of valuation, the exportation to Europe of 100 tons of mineral extracted, is permitted as a sample after the payment, according to the quality, of the proportionate duty. This quantity may be increased to 2,000 tons, but in this case the mineral will be subject, according to quality, to the maximum of the proportionate duty.

By a disposition additional to Article 1, the Administrative Councils of the vilayet and of the sandjak, will fix, by the terms of the present regulation, the fines to be paid by prospectors and workers.

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*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.***MEXICO.**

With reference to the notice on p. 376 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 22nd February, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Mexico City (Mr. W. G. Max Müller) has now forwarded a translation of a *supplementary* Decree issued by the Finance Department on the 9th February, with respect to further requirements that must be fulfilled before the refund can be granted.

This translation may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**JAPAN.**

The "Japan Herald" of the 19th January states that the latest statistics show an annual increase in the output of gold and silver in Japan and Formosa, the totals for the last five years being as follows:—

—								Gold.	Silver.
								Momme.	Momme.
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	943,360	14,598,749
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,194,278	15,371,045
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,158,030	15,627,245
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,180,969	16,432,821
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,338,288	20,004,703
Total ...								5,814,925	82,034,863

Momme = 57·972 grains.

**YARNS AND TEXTILES.****BRITISH INDIA.**

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each province in British India, and in the Native States, during November of each of the years 1903, 1904, and 1905, and in the eight months, April to November, 1903, 1904, and 1905.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the eight months ended November, 1903, 1904, and 1905:—

**Cotton Spinning  
and Weaving  
Returns  
for November.**

*Yarns and Textiles.*

		Eight Months ended November.		
		1903.	1904.	1905.
<b>BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.</b>				
Cotton yarn spun ...	Lbs.	404,217,492	369,118,360	456,748,003
Cotton woven goods produced :—				
Grey goods ...	{ = Yards	76,061,505	87,828,937	91,951,473
Figured and coloured goods	Lbs.	310,873,886	369,320,523	385,534,956
Hosiery ...	"	16,454,972	17,663,812	20,403,911
Miscellaneous goods	"	584,700	554,863	487,525
		1,052,185	1,564,870	890,572

**EGYPT.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) cuttings of ten different descriptions of *German* woollen cloths which have been placed on the market at Alexandria, together with particulars as to price, consumption, &c. These samples may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**ITALY.**

In his report for 1905, H.M. Consul-General at Naples (Mr. E. Neville-Rolfe, M.V.O.) remarks that the increasing production and extraordinary improvement which has taken place in Italian textiles has caused the Italian Government to establish a school of textiles at Naples, in connection with the scheme for the industrial future of the city [see p. 447]. The new weaving school will be supported by a grant of 16,000 fr. (640*l.*) from the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture, the contributions of firms interested in obtaining the best class of workmen, and the school fees of the pupils. A further sum of 800*l.* will be granted by the Government for the erection of the plant. Instruction will be given in the arts of weaving wool, cotton and hemp. Another branch of instruction will be given in the design of stuffs, and in the dyeing both of threads and of stuffs already woven; and an evening school will be opened for the improvement of such operatives as are already engaged in the trade. The whole course of instruction will extend over three years, the pupils will enter at 12 years of age, and must have procured a diploma either from a technical school, a school of arts and crafts, or an elementary commercial school. The institution will be presided over by an appointee of the Ministry, and the rest of the committee will be formed by a delegate of the province, one from the city, one from the Chamber of Commerce, and the headmaster of the school. The scheme, adds Mr. Neville-Rolfe, is so thoroughly practical that great things may be expected from it. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,530.)

## AGRICULTURE. UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 3rd March, 1906, were as follows:—

Wheat	...	...	...	28s.	8d.
Barley	...	...	...	25s.	0d.
Oats	...	...	...	19s.	0d.

For further particulars see p. 480.

A statement is published on p. 481, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 3rd March, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

### RUSSIA.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) has forwarded the following figures, showing the amount of Siberian butter exported westwards by rail *via* Cheliabinsk during 1905 and the three preceding years, which have been supplied by the Siberian Railway Administration:—

				Pounds.
1902	...	...	...	1,945,848
1903	...	...	...	2,239,605
1904	...	...	...	2,157,774
1905	...	...	...	1,937,989 (69,984,658 lbs.)

Pound = 36 lbs.

### GERMANY.

In a communication received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Munich (Mr. L. Buchmann), it is stated, on the authority of the Imperial German Statistical Year Book (Berlin) for 1905, that the quantity of barley and other grain used for brewing purposes in Germany amounted to 796,468 tons in 1901, 745,809 tons in 1902, and 771,169 tons in 1903. Malt substitutes used in Germany (such substitutes are illegal in Bavaria) amounted to 14,962 tons in 1901, 13,444 tons in 1902, and 13,665 tons in 1903.

With regard to hops, the British Vice-Consul at Nuremberg (Mr. S. Ehrenbacher) states that, according to latest particulars from the "Statistical Bureau," the hops grown in the German Empire in 1905 amounted to 607,000 centners.\* In Germany hops are, in most instances, not sufficiently dried till they pass into the hands of the dealer, who puts them into the required condition. In some instances hops are sent out sun or air dried for immediate use to local brewers.

\* Centner = 110 2 lbs.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 1st March, 1906, **Cotton Statistics.** was 83,311 (including 190 bales British West Indian and 90 bales British West African), and the number imported during the nine weeks ended the 1st March was 1,028,764 (including 826 bales British West Indian and 233 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 1st March, 1906, 10,320 bales, and for the nine weeks, 88,852.

For further details see p. 480.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month and two months ended 28th February last, will be found on p. 479.

### NATAL

A supplement to the "Natal Government Gazette" of 6th February publishes the report of the Industries Commission appointed on the 16th September, 1905 (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th October, page 177). This report contains a review of the evidence and general findings, together with the recommendations of the Commission in regard to each industry dealt with. Suggestions and recommendations are also made with regard to technical education and the industrial training of natives, the placing of Government contracts, bonuses and bounties for the encouragement of industries, reforms in the Customs Union tariff, railway rates, &c., &c.

The full text of the report may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### CHILE.

The following figures of the Chilean Customs revenue last year, as compared with the preceding year, are extracted from a report by the Superintendent of Customs at Valparaiso, received from the Acting British Consul-General at that Port (Mr. A. L. Rowley) :—

From						1904.	1905.
						Dols.	Dols.
Import duties ...	...	...	...	...	...	30,448,289	32,240,765
Export duties ...	...	...	...	...	...	50,819,456	57,127,423
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	81,267,745	89,368,188

Dollar = 1s. 6d.

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.—February, 1906.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the Month and Two Months ended 28th February, 1906, compared with the corresponding Periods of the Year 1905.

	MONTH OF FEBRUARY.		TWO MONTHS ENDED 28TH FEBRUARY.	
	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.
<b>IMPORTS.</b>				
American ... ..	260,871	261,148	753,334	683,748
Brazilian ... ..	20,168	3,201	66,057	9,172
East Indian ... ..	14,697	5,622	27,886	13,385
Egyptian ... ..	69,247	38,370	144,956	92,495
Miscellaneous ... ..	5,788*	3,777	12,329†	16,477
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>370,771</b>	<b>312,118</b>	<b>1,004,562</b>	<b>815,278</b>
<b>EXPORTS.</b>				
American ... ..	19,928	22,353	41,213	66,496
Brazilian ... ..	5,220	—	3,620	328
East Indian ... ..	4,462	2,149	8,782	3,812
Egyptian ... ..	13,991	11,053	27,920	21,821
Miscellaneous ... ..	330	216	1,082	450
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>41,931</b>	<b>35,771</b>	<b>82,617</b>	<b>92,907</b>
<b>FORWARDED from PORTS to INLAND TOWNS.</b>				
American ... ..	248,450	265,881	534,348	544,751
Brazilian ... ..	17,028	1,472	34,147	4,556
East Indian ... ..	6,918	2,276	11,588	7,403
Egyptian ... ..	42,217	31,596	89,357	64,181
Miscellaneous ... ..	7,195	3,441	15,562	5,956
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>321,803</b>	<b>304,666</b>	<b>685,002</b>	<b>626,847</b>
<b>FORWARDED from INLAND TOWNS to PORTS.</b>				
American ... ..	73	197	242	546
Brazilian ... ..	—	—	—	—
East Indian ... ..	—	—	—	—
Egyptian ... ..	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>546</b>

\* Including 650 bales British West Indian and 143 bales British West African.

† Including 809 bales British West Indian and 209 bales British West African.

**Cotton Returns—continued.**

**Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 9 Weeks ended 1st March, 1906 :—**

	Week ended 1st March, 1906.	9 Weeks ended 1st March, 1906.	Week ended 1st March, 1906.	9 Weeks ended 1st March, 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	51,979	774,078	1,791	42,060
Brazilian ... ..	2,941	66,057	1,691	3,620
East Indian ... ..	1,382	30,439	2,314	11,074
Egyptian ... ..	25,100	145,830	4,475	30,975
Miscellaneous ... ..	1,909*	12,360†	49	1,123
Total ... ..	83,311	1,028,764	10,320	88,852

\* Including 190 bales British West Indian, and 90 bales British West African.

† " 826 " " " 223 " "

**Corn Prices.**

**Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 3rd March, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.**

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 3rd March, 1906 ... ..	28	8	25	0	19	0
Corresponding week in—						
1899 ... ..	25	10	26	7	16	11
1900 ... ..	25	11	24	8	16	11
1901 ... ..	25	9	25	4	17	7
1902 ... ..	27	0	26	8	20	5
1903 ... ..	25	3	23	1	17	1
1904 ... ..	28	8	22	6	16	5
1905 ... ..	30	8	25	2	16	10

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

## Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 3rd March, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

					Week ended 3rd Mar., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>						
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	...	...	...	Number.	12,730	8,259
Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	"	1,613	2,584
Swine	...	...	...	"	—	—
Horses	...	...	...	"	203	321
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>						
Beef	...	...	...	Cwts.	152,874	123,741
Mutton	...	...	...	"	107,122	101,899
Pork	...	...	...	"	13,445	11,082
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>						
Bacon	...	...	...	Cwts.	107,058	88,400
Beef	...	...	...	"	3,105	2,156
Hams	...	...	...	"	26,983	15,852
Pork	...	...	...	"	3,406	4,843
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh	...	...	...	"	15,872	15,493
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	...	...	...	"	16,353	10,708
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>						
Butter	...	...	...	Cwts.	119,368	95,314
Margarine	...	...	...	"	22,434	23,501
Cheese	...	...	...	"	32,144	25,075
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	...	...	...	"	—	—
" cream	...	...	...	"	89	114
" condensed	...	...	...	"	16,982	17,266
" preserved, other kinds...	...	...	...	"	166	92
Eggs	...	...	...	Grt. Hundr.	297,383	381,313
Poultry	...	...	...	Value £	28,179	25,106
Game	...	...	...	"	2,008	1,356
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	...	...	...	Cwts.	10,657	3,668
Lard	...	...	...	"	53,157	40,988
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>						
Wheat	...	...	...	Cwts.	1,642,700	2,113,900
Wheat meal and flour	...	...	...	"	302,100	283,200
Barley	...	...	...	"	193,700	416,000
Oats	...	...	...	"	226,100	347,500
Peas	...	...	...	"	21,200	42,790
Beans	...	...	...	"	3,740	22,380
Maize or Indian corn	...	...	...	"	1,114,100	766,100
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>						
Apples	...	...	...	Cwts.	40,318	32,063
Apricots and peaches	...	...	...	"	58	57
Bananas	...	...	...	Bunches.	76,994	97,493
Cherries	...	...	...	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	...	...	...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	...	...	...	"	—	—
Grapes	...	...	...	"	468	255
Lemons	...	...	...	"	11,768	9,536
Oranges	...	...	...	"	199,628	185,752
Pears	...	...	...	"	633	147
Plums	...	...	...	"	175	42
Strawberries	...	...	...	"	—	—
Unenumerated	...	...	...	"	3	923
Hay	...	...	...	Tons.	3,832	2,223
Straw	...	...	...	"	2,870	1,572
Moss Litter	...	...	...	"	2,158	1,807
Hops	...	...	...	Cwts.	3,491	926
Locust Beans	...	...	...	"	28,972	22,220
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>						
Onions	...	...	...	Bushels.	167,495	41,647
Potatoes	...	...	...	Cwts.	14,217	19,125
Tomatoes	...	...	...	"	18,535	21,828
Unenumerated	...	...	...	Value £	11,663	7,057
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>						
Preserved by canning	...	...	...	Cwts.	5,368	1,563
	...	...	...	"	7,031	5,934

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 2d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the February issue:—State of the Labour Market in January; Disputes in 1905; Wholesale Prices in 1905; Co-operative Credit Societies; Labour in New York State; and Relief of the Unemployed.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORT.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in a Consular Report of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

#### No. 3,532. Antwerp Shipping and Navigation. 1905.

Figures of shipping, entered and cleared, during 1905. Increase of British tonnage.

System of tonnage measurement in force in Belgium and the United Kingdom respectively, with comparative statistics.

Quay and dock accommodation.

Time occupied in loading and discharging cargo.

Map of the port showing allotment of quay berths.

*Government Publications.***OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Agricultural Returns, 1905 (Produce of Crops). Price 3d.*

This volume shows the total produce and yield per acre of the principal crops in each county of Great Britain, with summaries for the United Kingdom. Preliminary figures with regard to wheat, barley, and oats were published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th November, 1905.

*Bulletin of the Imperial Institute. Vol. III. No. 4, 1905. Price 1s.*

This issue of the "Bulletin" publishes information regarding recent additions to the Indian and Colonial Collections and to the Library at the Imperial Institute; reports on recent investigations in the Scientific and Technical Department (including those relating to cotton from the Federated Malay States, fibres from Uganda and North-Western Rhodesia, rubber from North-Eastern Rhodesia, etc.); and articles and notes respecting economic products and their development.

**LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.**

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1906, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
<b>EUROPE—</b>					
3532	<b>Belgium :</b>		3527	<b>Netherlands and Colonies :</b>	
	Antwerp, Shipping and Navigation ... ..1905	7d.		Netherlands Finances 1904-5 to 1905-6	1½d.
3525	<b>Denmark :</b>		3524	Netherlands Indies Finances ... ..1905-6	1d.
	Denmark (Supplementary) ... ..1904	1d.	3529	<b>Servia :</b>	
3523 644	<b>France :</b>			Servia ... ..1904	1½d.
	Indo-China ... ..1903-4	7d.		<b>AMERICA, NORTH—</b>	
	<i>French Octroi System</i> ...	1½d.	3531	<b>Mexico :</b>	
3526 645	<b>German Empire :</b>			Mexican Budget ... 1905-6	½d.
	Bavaria... ..1904 and part of 1905	1d.	643	<b>United States of America :</b>	
3523	German Trade with India...	1d.		<i>Coal Industry of the United States in 1904</i> ... ..	3d.
645	<i>Agriculture in Germany</i> ...	1½d.	3521	<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>	
3530	<b>Italy :</b>			<b>Brazil :</b>	
	South Italy ... ..1905	1½d.		Santos ... ..1902-4	2d.
			3522	<b>WEST INDIES—</b>	
				Cuba (Supplementary) 1904	2d.

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, also the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

**Transvaal and Orange River Colony.**—A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, on the lines of the agency established at the same address by the Government of Cape Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Superintendent in charge of the Office deals with, and supplies free, information in regard to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c.

*March, 1906.*

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes:—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

March 15, 1906.

[No. 485]

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 532.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
German woollen cloths sold in Alexandria	8th March, 1906	476
Evaporated bananas from the Seychelles Islands ... ..	15th Feb., 1906	333
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and Shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Cape of Good Hope.
Dominion of Canada.	Transvaal and Orange
Queensland.	River Colony.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 533.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE. BRITISH INDIA.

### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be

**Wheels and Axles.** willing to supply—

Wheels and axles for carriages and wagons.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **BRITISH INDIA**—*continued.*

The conditions of contract may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W., and tenders are to be delivered at that office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 20th March, 1906, after which time no tender will be received.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of laminated bearing springs for wagons, as per specification to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C. Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Laminated Bearing Springs," not later than noon, on Wednesday, the 21st March. The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, viz.:—hemp, cord, &c., railway tickets, &c., pig iron, copper plates and rods, plate and sheet glass, &c., carbolic acid powder and fluid, &c., spring steel, asbestos, and crank axles. Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, London, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned. Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Hemp, Cord, &c.," or as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 22nd March. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

### **CANADA.**

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade. Offices, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm have asked to be furnished with the name of a Canadian firm requiring agencies for dry goods.

A Lancashire manufacturer is desirous of getting into communication with mine owners in Canada who could supply crude asbestos.

English makers of metal tiles, stamped metal ceilings and decorations, washable water paints and damp proof composition,

*Openings for British Trade.***CANADA**—*continued.*

varnishes, paints and enamels, carriage and motor lamps, are seeking suitable agents in Canada.

Enquiry is made by a London firm for names of Canadian buyers of mineral or slag wool; also for the address of a firm who would be disposed to act as their representatives in the Dominion.

A fruit and produce broker on the East Coast of Scotland, with a large and increasing outlet for Canadian produce, desires to make arrangements with Canadian shippers for dealing with consignments of apples and other produce during the coming season.

A London firm of grain superintendents and samplers who protect the interests of shippers in the weighing and sampling have asked to be placed in communication with Canadian exporters. They are also in a position to give good selling agents in Great Britain.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Montreal firm dealing in building materials are desirous of getting into communication with English manufacturers of Portland cement, fire bricks, enamelled bricks and tile fire clay, sewer pipes and tiles.

A Canadian firm of machinery and hardware manufacturers have asked to be referred to English stamping firms who supply steel rims for railway purposes.

A Canadian contractor is seeking a market for nickel and copper matte carrying a good percentage of both metals; he could contract to ship fairly large quantities annually commencing about four months hence.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A Liverpool firm dealing in spices, ginger, peppers, and similar goods wish to get into communication with Canadian importers.

A firm of Scotch whisky distillers are prepared to appoint a suitable Canadian resident agent.

A London firm ask to be placed in communication with reliable Canadian shippers of canned lobsters.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Canadian firm desire the addresses of United Kingdom manufacturers of tin-foil and of tea-leads.

A Canadian firm wish to get into communication with United Kingdom shippers of coarse salt as used in pork packing factories, &c.

A Canadian correspondent with long experience in the timber

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **CANADA—continued.**

trade would like to act as buying agent for a first-class United Kingdom timber importing house.

A firm of commission merchants and manufacturers' agents in Calgary are prepared to act for United Kingdom houses wishing to develop trade in Western Canada.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### **AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the courtesy of the Agent-General for New South Wales, a copy of the conditions of tender in connection with the Oversea Mail Service to the Australian Commonwealth. Tenders will be received at the Office of the Postmaster-General of the Commonwealth, Spring Street, Melbourne, up to 4 p.m., on 31st May next. The conditions may be seen at the Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

A copy of the conditions, together with form of tender, may be obtained from the Agent-General for New South Wales, 123 and 125, Cannon Street, E.C.

### **MALTA.**

The "Malta Government Gazette" announces that sealed tenders will be received at the office of the Receiver General and Director of Contracts, Valletta, on Friday, the 26th October, 1906, for the conveyance of mails from Malta to Syracuse, and *vice versa*, for a period of six years from the 19th August, 1907.

Tenderers should specify the steamer which they propose to employ, and should forward with their tenders a full detailed description of each steamship, stating the passenger accommodation available on board, on the understanding that the exemption from payment of port dues at Malta shall not extend to pilot fees, which expense, if incurred, must be paid by the contractor.

No tender will be considered unless it be signed by the tendering party and unless a deposit of 500*l.* be made in the office of the Receiver General.

The conditions of the contract may be obtained on application at the office of the Receiver General and Director of Contracts at Valletta. A copy of the conditions, received from H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill), may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### *Openings for British Trade.*

In connection with this contract, Mr. Churchill states that six services are to be run weekly each way at a rate not below 11 knots per hour. The present holders of the contract (the Adria Company of Trieste) are in receipt of a subsidy of 5,000*l.* per annum, and have had the contract for 12 years. The steamers are free of harbour and other dues at Malta (except pilot fees as mentioned above) and British Consular dues at Syracuse. The Adria Company employ a 1,000 ton steamer on the service.

#### **EGYPT.**

H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) has forwarded conditions of tender, estimates, plans, &c., for the construction of "Tribunals Sommaires" (Courts of Justice) at Sembellawein, Kafr-el-Zayat, Facos and Santa. Tenders should be addressed to the Ministry of Public Works, Cairo, but the date to which tenders will be received is not specified.

The conditions, &c., may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73 Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Egyptian Railways Administration at Cairo copies of an invitation for tenders for the supply of paint brushes, &c. Tenders, accompanied by stamped paper of 30 millièmes, must be sent by registered post to the Directeur Général, Chemins de fer de l'État, Cairo, before the 5th April. Specification &c., and form of tender may be obtained on application to Col. J. H. Western, R.E., Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W., on payment of 2*s.* per copy. A copy of the specification may be seen at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" publishes a notice, issued by the Ministry of Public Instruction, inviting tenders for the supply of 1,000 sheets and 2,250 metres of tulle for mosquito curtains. Tenders, made out on stamped paper of 3 piastres, Turkish, will be received up to the 23rd April; they should be addressed to the Ministry of Public Instruction at Cairo under registered envelope.

A copy of the specification, together with samples of the sheeting and tulle, forwarded by H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban), may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

#### **RUSSIA.**

See article on p. 505, in which it is pointed out that dealers in agricultural machinery who wish to exhibit in Russia, take advantage of the principal fairs where there is usually a small section for this purpose.

*Openings for British Trade.***DENMARK.**

A notice appears in the "Berlingske Tidende" of 10th March stating that about 4,500 tons of coal will be required by the Frederiksberg Municipality, Copenhagen, during the financial year, 1906-7. Further particulars and conditions may be obtained at the offices of the Municipality, 5, Mynstersvej, Copenhagen. The date for the receipt of tenders is not specified.

**Coal.**

**GERMANY.**

H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal) reports that tenders are invited for the supply of 2,000 tons of Upper Silesian or English steam coal for the Stettin Waterworks.

**Steam Coal.**

Tenders bearing the inscription "Kohlen für die Wasserwerke" addressed to "Der Magistrat, Gas-Wasserleitungs-Deputation, Rathaus, Zimmer No. 8, Stettin," will be received up to the 22nd March. The quality of the coal and name of colliery must be given.

The conditions of contract may be obtained from the above address on payment of 8d.; a copy (in German) may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

H.M. Consul at Stettin also reports that tenders are invited for the supply to the Köslin Gasworks of about 2,500 tons of English gas coal, free on rail Köslin, during this summer. Sealed tenders bearing the inscription "Angebot auf Gaskohlen," addressed to "Der Magistrat, Köslin," will be received up to the 25th March. The quality of the coal and the name of the colliery must be given.

**Gas Coal.**

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 3rd March, states that tenders will be opened on 21st March at the Proviantamt, Stettin, for the supply of 16,000 double jute bags (32,000 ordinary bags).

**Jute Bags.**

**NETHERLANDS.**

The Acting British Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. F. A. Chambers) reports that the "Nieuwe Landbouwvereniging" (New Agricultural Association) at Vroomshoop will receive, up to the 21st March, tenders for the supply of 150,000 kilos. of Chile saltpetre, to be delivered, carriage paid, on landing-places in the Almelosche Canal, in good whole bales of 101 kilos. (2 cwts.). About 500 bales are to be delivered from the 20th February to the 5th March, 1907, and about 1,000 from the 1st to the 15th April, 1907. The saltpetre must contain a percentage of 15½ per cent. N.

Particulars may be obtained from J. M. Kamphuis, Vroomshoop, Netherlands.

*Openings for British Trade.***NETHERLANDS**—*continued.*

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) reports that tenders will be received by the Netherlands Colonial Office at the Hague up to the 4th April, for the supply of the following materials:—

**Railway and Bridge Material.** Contract 414. The metal superstructure with appurtenances for 57 railway bridges.

Contract 415. 150 axles with wheels for railway carriages and waggon.

Particulars may be obtained from Mr. M. Nijhoff, at the Hague at a cost of 6 fl. (10s.) for contract No. 414, and 2 fl. (3s. 4d.) for contract No. 415.

**BELGIUM.**

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) reports that the municipal authorities at Ghent invite tenders for the supply of cast-iron pipes and other articles connected with the water and gas services of that town.

The specification ("Cahier des Charges, No. 1,054") relating to the contract may be obtained at the Hotel de Ville, Ghent.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the "Collège Echevinal de la ville de Gand," and should reach there not later than the 21st March.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The "Moniteur Belge" notifies that tenders are invited by the "Ministre des Finances et des Travaux Publics"

**Paper.** at rue de la Loi, 14, Brussels, up to 11 a.m. on the 24th March, for the supply of paper in six lots. Samples and specification may be seen at the Musée commercial, rue des Augustins, Brussels.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) announces that the "Maison Communale" Couvin (Namur) are inviting tenders, up to the 19th April, for the electric lighting of the town. Further information may be obtained from the "Secrétariat Communal."

**SWITZERLAND.**

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" of 28th February, contains copy of a Decree sanctioning the expenditure of 1,950,000 francs (about 78,000l.) on the construction of a post office at La Chaux-de-Fonds.

**Building Materials.**

### *Openings for British Trade.*

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#### **PORTUGAL.**

The "Diario do Governo" of 7th March contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 7th April, at the Ministry of Public Works, Lisbon, for the construction of a metal bridge over the river Mondego, at Martyr Santo, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Diario." A deposit of 1,000 milreis (about 225*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

**Bridge  
Construction.**

The "Diario do Governo" of 10th March contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 10th April at the Ministry of Public Works, Lisbon, for the construction of a metal bridge over the river Velho or Verride, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Diario." A deposit of 400 milreis (about 90*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

**Bridge  
Construction.**

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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#### **SPAIN.**

In the course of an article on the development of the fishing industry of North-west Spain (see p. 523), **Steam Trawlers.** H.M. Consul at Corunna states that more orders for steam trawlers are to be placed, and possibly larger trawlers may be wanted for the cod fisheries.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 6th March contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 7th April at the Directorate General of Public Works, Madrid, for the construction of a breakwater at the port of Arrecife, Island of Lanzarote, Canaries, at the estimated cost of 927,191 pesetas (or about 32,000*l.*), in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta." A deposit of 9,271 pesetas is required to qualify any tender.

**Breakwater  
Construction.**

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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#### **ITALY.**

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 6th March contains copy of a law authorising the Reggio Emilia Provincial Council to construct and work a steam railway between Reggio Emilia and Ciano d'Enza.

**Railway Plant.**

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### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **AUSTRIA-HUNGARY-BOHEMIA.**

The "Nachrichten für Handel" reports that the Land Commission of the Kingdom of Bohemia are inviting tenders for the construction of a standard gauge local railway from Libochowitz to Jenchowitz. Conditions may be seen at the railway department offices in Prague, Kleinseite, Thomasgasse 11, and tenders must be in by 31st March.

#### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) has forwarded a copy of Circular No. 301, inviting tenders for the supply of cement, railway material, &c. (including track bolts and spikes, flat-car stake pockets, shovels, forging machines, &c.), to the Isthmian Canal Commission. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at the office of the General Purchasing Officer, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington, D.C., until 10.30 a.m. on the 19th March. A copy of the specifications, including those for the Portland cement, may be inspected on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., although, as before, the time allowed only admits of firms tendering who have arrangements with their agents which can be availed of by cable.

#### **CUBA.**

The Cuban "Gaceta Oficial" of 26th February contains copy of Laws sanctioning the expenditure of:—

- (1) 700,000 dollars on public works, mainly road and bridge construction, in the provinces of Pinar del Rio and Habana;  
**Bridge and Road Construction.**
- (2) 100,000 dollars on dredging and other improvement works at the port of Isabela de Sagua.  
**Port Works.**
- (3) 50,000 dollars on studying the best means of preventing the floods periodically caused by the overflowing of the Roque. The Government may employ for these studies native or foreign engineers, whether residing in Cuba or elsewhere, who have been habitually engaged in carrying out hydraulic works.  
**Hydraulic Engineering Works.**

#### **CHILE.**

Regarding the invitation for tenders by the Chilean Government for the Valparaiso dock scheme (see p. 343 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 25th May, 1905) the "Chilian Times" announces that it has been decided to postpone the opening of the tenders until 25th April.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

#### UNITED KINGDOM.

The Board of Trade have received particulars of the Essex County General and Industrial Exhibition, 1906, which is to be held at the Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea, from 12th to 30th May.

<p><b>Essex County General and Industrial Exhibition at Southend-on-Sea.</b></p>	
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#### ITALY.

<p><b>H.M. Consul at Milan</b></p> <p><b>Congresses at Milan Exhibition: Competition for Street-sweeping Machine.</b></p>	<p>(Mr. J. H. Towsey) has forwarded a list of the Congresses, numbering sixty-four, which are expected to be held at that city during the period of the exhibition. Mr. Towsey has also sent particulars of an international competition for a machine for sweeping the streets. This should be so constructed as to collect the mud into a box of a cubic metre in capacity, to work on streets paved with stones, cobbles or asphalt, and is to be an automobile of any system, not requiring more than two men to work it. Machines must be submitted not later than the 31st July. There will be awarded a first prize of 4,000 lire (160<i>l.</i>) and a second of 2,000 lire (80<i>l.</i>).</p>
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#### RUSSIA.

<p><b>H.M. Consul at Kieff</b></p> <p><b>Electro-Technical Exhibition at Kieff.</b></p>	<p>(Mr. H. P. Smith) reports that the Electro-Technical Exhibition* which was to have been held at Kieff on the 25th March to 7th April, 1906, has been postponed until April, 1907. The Congress of Electro-Technical Engineers has also been postponed till that date.</p>
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#### FRANCE.

<p><b>With reference to</b></p> <p><b>International Oceanographic Exhibition at Marseilles.</b></p>	<p>the notice on p. 389 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 30th November last, H.M. Consul-General at Marseilles (Mr. M. C. Gurney) reports, in response to an enquiry on the subject, that the "International Oceanographic and Sea Fisheries Exhibition" is to be opened on the 15th April at Marseilles, at the same time as, and in connection with, the French (national) Colonial Exhibition, but as a separate exhibition, and not merely as a section of the Colonial exhibition as at first intended. An organising committee was constituted in Paris at No. 5, Rue des Mathurins, which will answer any enquiries. Mr. Gurney believes that the entries are closed.</p>
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\* See "Board of Trade Journal" of 10th August, 1905, p. 251.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**FRANCE**---continued.

He is informed that the Oceanographic Congress which was to have been held at Marseilles, during the Exhibition, has been postponed till 1907, and will be held at Monaco.

**Oceanographic  
Congress.**

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**NETHERLANDS.**

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) announces an international Exhibition of Food and Cookery is to be held at the Palace of Industry, Amsterdam, from the 19th June to the 10th July next.

**International  
Cookery  
Exhibition at  
Amsterdam.**

The sections include:—Raw materials, finished products, machinery, &c.

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**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**

The Austro-Hungarian Embassy have forwarded to the Foreign Office particulars of the International Exhibition of Hygiene, to be held in Vienna from 12th May to 15th July next (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th February last, p. 252). Notifications of exhibits will be received up to the 1st April. The programme, together with forms of notification, can be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**International  
Exhibition  
of Hygiene in  
Vienna.**

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**PERU.**

According to "Handels-Museum" (Vienna) of 1st March the Institute of Hygiene (Lima) is planning the establishment there of a permanent Health Exhibition, with a view to instructing the Peruvian public in the latest methods of hygiene, sanitation, &c. The Institute would be glad to receive samples or printed descriptions of such articles as patent foods, meat extract, surgical appliances, disinfectants, hygienic clothing, electro-therapeutic devices, hospital equipment, &c. An Italian bacteriologist, Dr. Ugo Biffi, is the Director of the Institute, which is under the City Government. The Institute is prepared, within certain limits, to defray the cost of carriage of samples forwarded.

**Health  
Exhibition at  
Lima.**

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**BRAZIL.**

According to the "Bulletin Commercial" the "Centro Economico" of Rio Grande do Sul, in co-operation with the National Agricultural Association, are organising a second\* international exhibition of apparatus used in connection with the production of alcohol and its application for industrial purposes. It will be opened at Porto Alegre in April or May next, and applications for space should be addressed to the "Centro Economico," Box 65, Porto Alegre Rio Grande do Sul.

**International  
Exhibition of  
Alcohol  
Appliances.**

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\* See "Board of Trade Journal," page 60 of 13th October, 1904.

## COMMERCIAL MISSION TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

In pursuance of the recommendations made by the late Advisory Committee to the Board of Trade on Commercial Intelligence, a Commercial Mission was despatched to Australia and New Zealand in June last (see p. 440 of "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th June, 1905), to enquire into the condition and prospects of British trade in those regions. The objects of the Mission were generally to ascertain the extent and nature of the competition which British goods have to contend with in the markets referred to, and the steps which British traders might take in order to meet such competition effectively. Mr. Jeffray, the commissioner appointed to undertake the Mission, was also entrusted with the task of selecting suitable candidates for the approval of the Board of Trade who might be appointed to act as permanent correspondents of the Commercial Intelligence Branch in those Colonies.

Mr. Jeffray, who has had considerable Commercial experience in Australia, and who has been twice President of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, arrived at Perth on the 27th June last, and after a fortnight spent in interviewing Members of the Government, Chambers of Commerce, and the leading members of the business community, proceeded to Melbourne, which has formed his headquarters during his stay in Australia. He has since visited the more important trade centres in South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania, and is now engaged in conducting his enquiries in New Zealand. The objects of the Mission have been explained by him in the various quarters mentioned, and general sympathy with these objects has been expressed on all sides. A cordial welcome has been everywhere accorded to Mr. Jeffray. The Mission will probably be completed in the course of the next two or three months. Mr. Jeffray's report will be published in due course, and will no doubt be found to contain much valuable information of interest to British manufacturers and traders.

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## TRANSVAAL AND ORANGE RIVER COLONY GOVERNMENTS TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICE.

A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, on the lines of the Agency established at the same address by the Government of Cape Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The primary purpose of the new office is to deal with enquiries relating to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c., and the Superintendent, Mr. G. A. G. Stanley, will endeavour to supply, as far as possible, any information that may be required

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*Transvaal and Orange River Colony Governments Trade  
Enquiry Office.*

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by applicants in the interests of the Colonies, or to direct them to the most reliable sources for obtaining it.

The Office is furnished with official statistical and other publications relating to the trade of the Colonies, colonial directories, copies of regulations affecting railway traffic, publications relating to mines and other natural products, &c., all of which may be consulted upon application, by those interested, free of charge,

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LIST OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF BRITISH GOODS  
ABROAD.—AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Board of Trade receive, from time to time, from H.M. Representatives in foreign countries and their own Correspondents in the Colonies, lists of importers and dealers likely to purchase British goods. These lists may be consulted by British manufacturers and traders at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., to which office also applications for extracts from them should be addressed.

Attention is now called to a list, which has recently been prepared, containing names supplied by His Majesty's Consular Officers in *Austria-Hungary*, and dealing with the following towns, viz:—Vienna, Prague, Budapest, Fiume, and Trieste. The classes of goods, some or all of which are dealt with in each of the lists, are the following:—Agricultural implements, cotton goods, cycles, drugs, electrical goods, engineering goods, fancy goods, fish, furniture, groceries and provisions, haberdashery, hats, hides and skins, linoleum, machinery, metals and metal ware, musical instruments, painters' colours, paper and stationery, sanitary goods, sewing machines, spirits, sporting articles, textiles, varnishes, wool and worsted yarns.

The following similar notices in regard to other recently compiled lists have appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal"—Cuba, p. 307, 15th February, 1906; Spain and the Canary Islands, p. 12, 4th January, 1906; Netherlands, p. 345, 23rd November, 1905; Roumania, p. 586, 28th September; Sweden, p. 393, 31st August; Bulgaria, p. 487, 15th June; Greece, p. 202, 4th May; Belgium, p. 205, 2nd February, 1905.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE  
BOARD OF TRADE.

**Enquiries of Consular Officers.**

The Board of Trade desire to point out to British manufacturers and merchants who wish to obtain information in regard to trade matters in foreign countries that it is desirable that applications should first be made to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., before communications are addressed to H.M. Consular officers abroad. By the adoption of this course much delay would be avoided by the enquirer in cases in which the Intelligence Branch is already in possession of the required information, and H.M. Consular officers would be relieved of much unnecessary work.

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## COTTON IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement of the quantity (in cwts.) of cotton consigned to the United Kingdom and received here during the months ending 31st January and 28th February, 1906, respectively, compared with the corresponding periods of 1905, has been prepared:—

Country whence Consigned.	Month ending 31st Jan., 1906.	Month ending 31st Jan., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1906 as compared with 1905.
<b>(A) Consigned from Foreign Countries—</b>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
America ... ..	1,945,986	1,999,307	— 53,321
Brazil ... ..	92,798	10,206	+ 82,592
Egypt ... ..	446,778	374,736	+ 72,042
Other countries ... ..	12,328	6,529	+ 5,799
Total ... ..	2,497,890	2,390,778	+ 107,112
<b>(B) Consigned from Places in the British Empire—</b>			
East Indies ... ..	60,325	27,793	+ 32,532
British West Indies ... ..	728	119	+ 609
British West Africa ... ..	230	720	— 490
British Central Africa ... ..	928	—	+ 928
British East Africa ... ..	10	4	+ 6
British Guiana and Honduras	—	—	—
Canada ... ..	4,008	—	+ 4,008
Other British Possessions ... ..	—	29	— 29
Total ... ..	66,229	28,665	+ 37,564
Grand total ... ..	2,564,119	2,419,443	+ 144,676
	Month ending 28th February, 1906.	Month ending 28th February, 1905.	Increase + or decrease — in 1906, compared with 1905.
<b>(A) Consigned from Foreign Countries—</b>	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
America ... ..	1,147,210	1,235,480	— 88,270
Brazil ... ..	62,170	7,062	+ 55,108
Egypt ... ..	432,603	266,355	+ 166,248
Other countries ... ..	14,656	4,650	+ 10,006
Total ... ..	1,656,639	1,513,547	+ 143,092
<b>(B) Consigned from Places in the British Empire—</b>			
East Indies ... ..	55,548	22,431	+ 33,117
British West Indies ... ..	1,944	577	+ 1,367
British West Africa ... ..	511	288	+ 223
British Central Africa ... ..	501	85	+ 416
British East Africa ... ..	50	—	+ 50
British Guiana and Honduras	1	—	+ 1
Canada ... ..	—	200	— 200
Other British Possessions ... ..	—	84	— 84
	58,555	23,655	+ 34,890
Deduct to correct, January, 1906:—Canada ... ..	2,760	—	— 2,760
Total ... ..	55,795	23,665	+ 32,130
Grand total ... ..	1,712,434	1,537,212	+ 175,222

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The forty-sixth annual meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom was held at the Hotel Métropole, Whitehall Place, S.W., on the 6th and 7th March, 1906, the chair being taken each day by Sir William H. Holland, M.P. (President).

Resolutions on the following subjects were dealt with, viz.:—  
Commercial Treaties, Portuguese Tariff, Consular Service, Colonial Duty on Catalogues, Canal Development, General Railway Classification, London and Dover Railway Service, Carriers Act, "Blocking" Motions in the House of Commons, Gold Reserve, Income Tax, Inquests on Fires, County Courts Jurisdiction, Shipping Freights, Alcohol for Manufactures, Commutation of Rates, Stamping of Documents, Penny Postal Service, Postage to the Colonies, Foreign Letter Postage, Newspaper Postage, Private Letter Boxes, Minister of Commerce, Patent Law Amendment, Private Bill Legislation, County Courts (Ireland), Indian Trade Mark Registration, French Congo, Prevention of Corruption, Municipal Trading, Rating of Machinery, Marine Insurance Bill, Board of Trade Shipping Regulations, Light Dues on Shipping, Postal Rates to Canada, Underground Telegraphic Communication.

## TRADE OF EGYPT DURING 1905.

The "Journal" of the British Chamber of Commerce of Egypt for February publishes a review of the trade of that country during the past year from which the subjoined particulars have been extracted.

The total values of the imports and exports in the last two years were as follows:—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£E	£E	£E	£E
Imports ... ..	14,814,684	16,753,190	20,559,588	21,564,076
Exports ... ..	18,046,939	19,539,524	20,811,040	20,360,285
Total trade...	32,861,623	36,292,714	41,370,628	41,924,361

£E = 17. 0s. 6½d.

**Imports.**—The import trade in 1905 shows a net gain of £E 1,004,488 over the preceding year, the main features of a comparison with that year being increases of £E 786,942 under cereals and £E 251,854 under sugar, and decreases of £E 216,068 under textiles and £E 100,067 under metals.

*Trade of Egypt during 1905.*

The marvellous expansion recorded for the years 1903 and 1904 has not been maintained during 1905. Experience has proved, however, that the enormous increase during 1904 was to some extent an artificial one, since merchants and agents undoubtedly largely over-estimated the requirements of the country towards the close of that year. Thirty-five per cent. of the total increase for 1904 took place within its last three months, with the result that at the beginning of the year 1905 merchants were left with large stocks of goods on their hands. These heavy supplies, whilst unduly swelling the figures for 1904, checked to a large extent the flow of home orders during 1905, and it is, therefore, scarcely surprising to find that for the 12 months under review trade did not advance in the same ratio as that experienced in 1903 and 1904. It is, however, decidedly satisfactory to note that the high import figures for 1904 have not only been kept up but exceeded by over one million pounds during the past year.

The following table is of interest as showing the relative positions of the countries which have done the largest trade with Egypt during the last four years:—

	1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Imports.	Per cent. of Total.	Imports.	Per cent. of Total.	Imports.	Per cent. of Total.	Imports.	Per cent. of Total.
	£E		£E		£E		£E	
United Kingd'm*	5,552,549	37·4	6,056,446	36·1	7,229,100	33·5	7,149,428	33·1
Turkey ...	2,044,140	13·8	2,347,564	14	2,814,059	13·2	3,078,332	14·2
France†...	1,361,112	9·2	1,638,561	10·1	1,906,992	9·2	2,322,257	10·7
Austro-Hungary	1,170,963	8	1,213,898	7·2	1,453,521	7	1,492,566	6·9
Italy ...	807,069	5·4	893,122	5·3	1,168,120	5·6	1,133,562	5·2
Germany ...	580,394	3·9	742,924	4·4	1,020,269	4·9	948,612	4·3

\* Including British Possessions in the Mediterranean. † Including Algeria.

The only country, other than Turkey, which improved its percentage of trade during 1905 was France, whose returns were materially helped by her increased imports of flour, her figures under this heading being £E 243,627 greater than in 1904. The drop in Great Britain's proportion is only a slight one, though still a long way behind her percentage in 1902. It is somewhat interesting to observe that Germany has not increased her hold on the country, but, on the contrary, has slightly lost ground.

The main contributor to the year's total expansion was the cereal class, which increased by £E 786,942. The reason for the additional imports lies in the fact that the native cultivator, instead of growing his own grain, &c., is now putting more of his land

*Trade of Egypt during 1905.*

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under cotton, with the result that he is compelled to buy cereals for his own consumption.

The **sugar** returns for the year were higher by £E 251,854, due in part to the cultivation of cotton *vice* sugar.

Apart from cereals and sugar, no category shows an increase of £E 100,000.

**Textiles** were responsible for the heaviest decrease in the year's trade, the returns, compared with 1904, being no less than £E 216,068 to the bad. These figures would have been still lower had it not been for a gain of £E 57,286 in sacks, which are included in the category. Overstocking towards the end of 1904 was the main cause for this state of affairs.

Cotton fabrics increased to the extent of £E 29,677, but woollen goods were £E 110,917 less. Raw silk and thread showed a shrinkage of £E 85,566, and silk fabrics were lower by £E 80,924.

The **metal** division followed textiles with a loss of £E 100,067, chiefly accounted for by decreased imports of machinery (excluding locomotives and pumps) which were short by £E 169,113, and brass, copper and bronze goods, the latter being lower by £E 139,210. On the other hand, however, the value of the locomotives imported was higher by £E 119,430, and the shipments of railway and tramway rolling stock showed the substantial increase of £E 129,150.

**Exports.**—The total exports for the year 1905 show a decrease of £E 450,775 or 2·2 per cent. The total shipments of cotton were 6,527,085 cantars valued at £E 15,806,447, as against 5,912,958 cantars valued at £E 16,702,730 in 1904. Exports of cotton seed were 3,484,596 ardebs, value £E 1,714,022, as compared with 2,926,621 ardebs, value £E 1,520,145. Sugar exports showed an increase of £E 161,485, the figures being £E 238,557 in 1904 and £E 400,022 last year. The main decreases in Egypt's exports were £E 18,730 in eggs, £E 93,356 in beans, and £E 16,901 in gum arabic.

Cantar = 99·05 lbs. avoirdupois.

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## FRENCH OCTROI DUTIES.

Attention is directed to a report which has recently been issued by the Foreign Office (*Miscellaneous Series No. 644, Messrs. Wyman & Sons, price 1½d.*) by H.M. Consul-General at Havre (Mr. W. R. Hearn) dealing with the general system of octroi duties in France, *i.e.*, duties levied by Municipal Authorities on merchandise entering the limits of towns.

Mr. Hearn writes:—"As these octroi duties are collected solely for revenue and are professedly not protective and fall equally on all goods that are taxed, whether native or foreign, they have not attracted the attention of foreign exporters as much as they ought to have done, and I doubt if many exporters are even aware of the heavy dues that fall on certain of their goods, after they have paid the Customs duties, on entering into, but before they are consumed in the towns. . . .

"The Customs duty on imported **spirits** is comparatively light (about 2s. 6d. per gallon), but they have to pay in addition excise duty of 9s. 1d. per gallon and octroi duty of 2s. per gallon, or in all 13s. 7d. per gallon of pure alcohol. This is certainly enough to restrict the consumption of spirits, and no doubt acts with good effect in that respect, being considerably higher than the British duty on spirits.

"**Coal** is taxed by the Havre and Rouen municipalities 4s. per ton, which adds so greatly to its cost that the inhabitants naturally use it as sparingly as possible; moreover, as anthracite is taxed at the same rate, and, although it is more expensive, is much more economical in use, the octroi duty may possibly encourage the use of anthracite at the expense of ordinary coal."

The general tariff of octroi duties divides the towns into six classes for the imposition of the octroi duties according to the number of their inhabitants. Attached to the report (pp. 18-24) is a statement showing the rates of octroi duties levied in every class. It may be added that the articles principally affected by octroi duties are certain classes of food and drink (wheat being excluded and the octroi on meat very low), fuel, forage and building materials.

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## AGRICULTURAL SHOWS IN CERTAIN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

The following particulars relating to agricultural shows held in certain European countries have been extracted from reports received at the Board of Trade from H.M. Representatives in the countries named:—

The two principal agricultural shows held in **South Russia** are those of Rostov-on-Don and Elizavetgrad. The former is held twice yearly, one in the spring (April) for breeding cattle, and the other in the autumn (September) for cattle and live-stock generally. Though originally intended to be exclusively a live-stock exhibition, it was decided in 1902 to admit agricultural machinery, and this has been shown for the last three years, chiefly by Russian makers. At Elizavetgrad there is one show annually: in the autumn. There is also a small annual show at Kharkoff for breeding cattle. Numerous horse shows are held in various parts of Russia under the auspices of the Imperial Stud Department of St. Petersburg. Detailed information as to shows in Russia, or reports thereof, can be obtained from the Exhibition Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and of State Domains, St. Petersburg. Dealers in agricultural machinery who wish to exhibit anything take advantage of the principal fairs where there is usually a small section for this purpose. A list of such fairs may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

In **Hungary** it is not usual to hold annual agricultural shows at the same place. Shows are, as a rule, held only at intervals and in different places, and are of a national or provincial character. During the current year the Agricultural Society of the County of Bihar intends to hold an agricultural show at Nagyvarad (Grosswardein).

In **Bulgaria** also agricultural shows appear to be held in different places, the objects exhibited being limited to the products of the district, such as cereals, honey, &c., but not including machinery. The show this year will be held at Plevna.

The only agricultural show of any importance held in **Roumania** during the last few years was that at Bucharest in 1904, which was, however, of purely local interest, and was supported entirely by private initiative. The only agricultural show that will be held in Roumania in 1906 will be the Jubilee Exhibition at Bucharest in June next. (See "Board of Trade Journal" of the 22nd February, p. 353, and previous notices).

In **Servia** agricultural shows are said to be practically unknown. A small show is held at Belgrade in the autumn (about September), but the exhibits last year consisted merely of fruit, grain, and poultry, together with a few corn-mowing machines. This is believed by the British Vice-Consul at Belgrade to be the only show held in Servia, and it is quite unimportant and purely local.

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## TRADE OF THE GERMAN COLONIES IN 1904.

The following particulars of the trade of the German Colonial Possessions in 1904 are extracted from an official report recently issued by the German Government. The value of the imports and exports of each colony during the year 1904, as compared with the preceding year, was as follows:—

Colony.	1903.		1904.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Marks.	Marks.	Marks.	Marks.
German East Africa ... ..	11,188,000	7,054,000	14,339,000	8,951,000
Cameroons* ... ..	9,638,000	7,565,000	9,378,000	8,021,000
Togoland... ..	6,105,000	3,616,000	6,898,000	3,551,000
German South-West Africa ...	7,931,030	3,443,000	(Not available.)	
New Guinea—				
Bismarck Archipelago ...	2,340,000	963,000	1,759,000	1,210,000
Kaiser-Wilhelm's Land ...	†	†	567,000	54,000
Marianne Islands ...	72,000	231,000	120,000	154,000
Caroline Islands (West) ..	442,000	359,000	209,000	126,000
"                    (East) ...	339,000	181,000	381,000	200,000
Marshall Islands ... ..	498,000	522,000	444,000	583,000
Samoa ... ..	2,681,000	1,385,000	2,317,000	1,675,000

\* Including the Sjanga-Ngoko district.

† The 1903 figures are omitted as they are not properly comparable with those of 1904.

The expansion which occurred in the trade of **German East Africa** during the year under review is ascribed to the outlet afforded by the Uganda Railway for the produce of districts previously as good as closed to international trade. The importation of oversea goods into the interior was similarly facilitated. In this connection the report dwells upon the progress of railway construction in the German Protectorate, the Usambara railway being completed as far as Mombo, and work commenced on the Dar-es-Salaam to Mogoro line\*.

In the import trade the most noticeable increases took place in metal and metal manufactures, 1,682,000 marks (811,000 marks in 1903); machinery and vessels, 522,000 marks (328,000 marks); and textiles and clothing, 5,868,000 marks (5,146,000 marks).

Amongst exports a remarkably active trade was shown in hides and skins (the value being 1,212,000 marks in 1904 as compared with 467,000 marks in 1903) which arose in the Muansa and Bukoba districts. India rubber headed the export list with a value of 2,237,000 marks (1,994,000 marks) and copra came next with 856,000 marks (805,000 marks).

The falling off in imports into the **Cameroons** was due to smaller entries of brandy and salt. Goods which showed increases were:

\* The "Deutsche Kolonialzeitung" reports that the Dar-es-Salaam to Bagamoyo section is expected to be ready for traffic by July.

*Trade of the German Colonies in 1904.*

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rice, 504,000 marks (349,000 marks in 1903); wood, 335,000 marks (129,000 marks); drugs, &c., 229,000 marks (158,000 marks); and metals and metal manufactures 1,028,000 marks (959,000 marks). Imports from the United Kingdom fell off by 515,000 marks. In the first three quarters of 1905 imports amounted in value to the large total of 10,235,000 marks, against 6,432,000 marks in the corresponding period of 1904, due to larger imports of drilling and other machinery, textiles, earthen and glass ware.

In the export trade the shares of Germany and England showed a marked alteration in 1904, the shipments to the former having been 1,854,000 marks more, and to the latter 1,406,000 marks less than in the previous year, owing to the British steamers having taken a large proportion of the produce to Hamburg instead of to Liverpool as formerly. The goods which showed the chief increases were: cocoa, 1,044,000 marks (928,000 marks in 1903); indiarubber, 3,374,000 marks (2,006,000 marks); and ivory, 910,000 marks (755,000 marks). In the first three quarters of 1905 the value of exports amounted to 6,847,000 marks as compared with 5,436,000 marks in the corresponding period of 1904.

The very large increase in the imports into **Togoland** was due to larger entries of kola nuts, 572,000 marks (67,000 marks in 1903); brandy, 1,741,000 marks (1,106,000 marks); tobacco, 315,000 marks (255,000 marks); salt, 170,000 marks (124,000 marks); and metal and metal manufactures, 439,000 marks (351,000 marks). The increases in brandy, tobacco and salt were not due to larger consumption but were incidental to Customs tariff alterations.

The principal exports were palm-nut kernels 992,000 marks (818,000 marks in 1903); palm oil, 367,000 marks (405,000 marks); and indiarubber, 713,000 marks (640,000 marks). Considerable attention has been given to the production of palm nuts, and had it not been for a drought, exports would have shown a larger augmentation.

**German New Guinea.**—The diminution in imports into the Bismarck Archipelago was due to a falling off in tobacco and spirits (incidental to tariff modifications), and in timber and metal manufactures. Exports increased under the following headings copra, trepang and coffee (its first appearance).

**Samoa.**—The 1903 import figures were larger than those of 1904 owing to very large importations in the former year on account of various schemes of development. The exports of copra, although showing a falling-off in value, were actually more in quantity. When the price of this staple rose again at the end of 1904, a considerable improvement in the purchasing power of the Colony took place; competition, however, kept prices of imported articles low.

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## COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL CONDITION AND TRADE OF ARGENTINA IN 1905.

The following review of the condition of commerce and agriculture in the Argentine Republic in 1905 is taken from a report by H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres (Mr. F. D. Harford):—

“Trade generally was very good in 1905, in fact it was perhaps the most genuinely prosperous year in the history of the country. House property realised large prices; in Buenos Ayres, Rosario, and Bahia Blanca, especially, house rents rose about 20 per cent., and much building is in progress. The export and import figures surpass those of any previous year, and the trade with Great Britain is the largest on record, amounting, probably, to about 35,000,000*l.*, of which over 20,000,000*l.* would be exports to Great Britain. I understand that no less than 500 locomotives were ordered by the English railway companies in 1905, as well as a vast amount of other rolling stock and tools.

“The importation from England of steam threshing machines with engines, has been very large of late. . . .

“Agriculture is the most important industry in the Argentine, and the harvest of 1905-6 promises to be as bountiful as each of the three previous harvests. The only cloud on the horizon is the possibility that the enormous swarms of locusts which invaded the Northern and Western Provinces in the middle of 1905 may destroy the maize crop in the region where they laid eggs. The wheat and linseed crops are safe and suffered little, but the maize is not picked till May. A number of troops have been engaged for some time in destroying locusts, and the Government have voted large sums for the work. The area of cultivation is constantly extending, especially that of wheat and maize, and the price of agricultural land, even in districts hitherto considered too remote, has doubled and trebled in value in many cases in the past three years. Such activity in land sales has not been witnessed since the so-called “boom” of 1888-1889.

“The exports of frozen beef from Argentina to the United Kingdom exceeded those from the United States for the first time in 1905.

“The price of wool and of fat wethers has been very high, and there is no doubt the number of sheep is decreasing, as they are being driven west and south by the increasing area devoted to cereals. For the season 1905-6 no less than 22,558,170 acres are under wheat, maize, and linseed, an increase of 1,488,165 acres over 1904-5. The laying down of land to alfalfa (lucerne) continues on a vast scale; it transforms what was often worthless land into rich pastures, able to carry a large head of cattle, or to yield several crops of hay in the year without the necessity of re-sowing for many years.”

According to official statistics received at the Board of Trade, the value of the imports of merchandise into Argentina in 1905 was 205,154,420 *dols.*, an increase of 17,848,451 *dols.* as compared with 1904. The exports of merchandise amounted to 322,843,841 *dols.*, an increase of 58,686,316 *dols.*

*Commercial and Agricultural Condition and Trade of  
Argentina in 1905.*

The following table shows the principal countries participating in the trade, and the share taken by each in 1905, as compared with 1904 :—

Principal Countries.	1904.		1905.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
United Kingdom ... ..	64,517,103	36,445,139	68,391,043	44,826,670
Germany ... ..	24,926,278	29,522,112	29,083,027	37,058,221
Belgium ... ..	9,069,123	17,566,034	8,727,076	20,780,850
Spain ... ..	4,797,996	1,923,892	5,726,872	2,334,802
France ... ..	17,109,716	30,596,559	21,248,202	37,591,281
Italy ... ..	19,127,902	4,344,952	20,284,673	6,468,941
United States of America...	24,473,877	10,214,989	28,920,443	15,717,458
Brazil ... ..	6,032,973	10,427,012	5,328,004	13,039,395
Other countries ... ..	17,251,001	26,863,227	17,445,080	36,792,495
Uncertain destination ...	—	96,253,609	—	109,030,728
Totals ... ..	187,305,969	264,157,525	205,154,420	322,843,841

The following table shows the value of the principal articles imported during the years 1904 and 1905 :—

Principal Articles imported.	1904.	1905.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
Textiles... ..	56,819,229	46,218,951
Iron and hardware, &c. ... ..	—	26,172,285
Vehicles and rolling stock ... ..	—	23,362,431
Stoneware, glass and ceramic goods ... ..	15,995,293	17,466,903
Agricultural implements ... ..	—	16,532,552
Wood and manufactures of ... ..	14,892,273	14,168,163
Foodstuffs ... ..	13,796,408	13,739,650
Wines, spirits, &c. ... ..	7,790,815	9,167,842
Chemicals and pharmaceutical products ... ..	6,014,344	6,275,786
Oils ... ..	6,205,756	5,556,067
Tobacco, &c. ... ..	4,578,498	4,455,408
Paper and manufactures of ... ..	4,023,720	4,133,842
Leather and manufactures of ... ..	1,410,617	1,796,844
Colours and dyes ... ..	1,154,439	1,441,726

The values of the principal exports from Argentina during the past two years were as follows :—

Principal Exports.	1904.	1905.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
Wheat ... ..	66,947,891	85,883,141
Wool in the grease ... ..	48,355,002	64,312,927
Maize... ..	44,391,196	46,537,402
Hides and skins ... ..	24,539,712	30,509,533
Linseed ... ..	28,359,923	26,233,851
Frozen meat .. ..	16,863,641	21,553,752
Wheat-flour ... ..	4,757,248	5,373,699
Cattle... ..	2,852,820	5,160,483
Quebracho extract ... ..	2,011,130	2,427,772

*Note.*—The dollar referred to is the gold dollar, worth about 4s.

## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 162 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 26th October last respecting the provisions of the Transvaal Explosives Ordinance No. 4 of 1905, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of the "Transvaal Government Gazette" for 9th February last, which contains a Government Notice (No. 121 of 1906) giving the Regulations which have been framed under section 29 of the above-mentioned Ordinance of 1905.

By section 70 of the Regulations it is provided that no explosive shall be imported into or exported from the Transvaal, except under a permit, and such explosive shall be of good quality and packed in accordance with certain specified regulations.

In the case of explosives packed in the United Kingdom or some British Colony, in accordance with regulations which differ from the regulations under notice, consignments of explosives may be accepted by the Inspector at his discretion.

The permits for ammunition, gunpowder for use in small arms, and small arm nitro-compounds may be obtained from the Colonial Secretary, and in the case of all other explosives, from an Inspector of Explosives, or his deputy.

Regulations are also laid down respecting the packing, transporting, and storing of explosives, and also for the licensing of factories, and the conditions under which the manufacture of explosives may be carried on.

These Regulations may be seen by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### EGYPT.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 24th February contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on certain oils, colours, &c., which was to come into operation on the 22nd February, and will remain in force until the 21st May, 1906, or until denunciation:—

**Revised Valuation  
Tariff for certain  
Oils, Colours, &c.**

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***EGYPT**—*continued.*

Articles.	Valuation per kilog. (net).*
	Millièmes.†
Cotton-seed oil, "prime winter yellow" ... ..	20½
" " refined, and "summer yellow" ... ..	18½
Linseed oil, raw ... ..	20
" " boiled ... ..	21
Zinc, white (first quality) including "Vieille Montagne" ... ..	26
" " (second quality) including "Nouvelle Montagne" ... ..	<i>Ad valorem.</i>
Red lead ... ..	19
Cochineal ... ..	<i>Ad valorem.</i>
Coco-nut oil, raw or refined ... ..	"

The same issue of the "Journal Officiel" contains the following Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on certain kinds of sesame. The Tariff was to come into force on the 25th February, and to remain in operation until the 24th May, 1906, or until denunciation:—

	Valuation per kilog.*
	Millièmes.†
Sesame from China ... ..	12½
" " India ... ..	12
" " Zanzibar ... ..	12
" " Aleppo and Cyprus ... ..	11½
" " Syria and Turkey ... ..	14

\* Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.

† 1,000 millièmes = £ E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

**RUSSIA.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a notification which appeared in a recent issue of the St. Petersburg "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," calling attention to the fact that the household effects of German immigrants into Russia (and consequently of other foreign immigrants entitled to most-favoured nation treatment in that country) are entitled to duty-free admission under the new Russo-German Treaty; and laying down the conditions under which this privilege is to be granted. An authorisation must be specially obtained in each separate instance from the Minister of Finance; and a certificate of a foreign or Russian official or

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

institution must be presented to the Customs proving that the person or family concerned is in reality moving into Russia to settle there, together with a duly certified list of the household effects which it is desired to import.

The complete translation of these regulations may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

#### **GERMANY (HAMBURG).**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy and translation of a Law which has recently been promulgated by the Senate of Hamburg respecting the declaration of goods for statistical purposes at the Free Port of Hamburg.

##### **Declaration of Goods in the Free Port.**

In accordance with this Law goods entering or leaving the Free Port of Hamburg must be declared by the receiver or the consignor as "for importation," "for exportation," or "for transit," as the case may be, on declaration forms supplied by the Board of Indirect Taxation. In the case of goods forwarded by parcel post, the declaration is dispensed with; also in the case of passengers' baggage, and of goods removed to another port in the importing ship. The declaration fee chargeable on imported goods is one-tenth of 1 per cent. of the value of the goods; but certain classes of goods, as enumerated in the Law, are exempted from the payment of this fee.

The Law, which supersedes the previous Law of October, 1883, came into force on the 1st March. The complete text of the Law, with the translation, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

#### **FRANCE—RUSSIA.**

With reference to the notice which appeared on pp. 406-8 of the "Journal" for the 30th November last on the subject of the Franco-Russian Commercial Convention of 16th/29th September, 1905, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a French law approving the Convention in question, which was ratified on the 7th/20th February, 1906.

##### **Law approving the new Franco-Russian Commercial Convention.**

Particulars of the reductions effected by this Convention in the rates of duty levied under the new Russian Customs tariff have been embodied in the *interim* statement relating to that tariff, which has recently been published as a Parliamentary paper. [Cd. 2,857 : price 9d.]

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***SPAIN.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at page 594 of the "Journal" for the 28th September last, on the subject of the Spanish import duties on wheat and wheat flour, the Board of Trade have now received information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that a Royal Decree was issued on the 9th March, re-imposing the full duties inscribed in the Tariff on these articles (viz., wheat, 8 pesetas, and wheat flour, 13·2 pesetas per 100 kilogs.), in consequence of the price of wheat in the markets of Castile falling below 27 pesetas per 100 kilogs.

**Wheat and Wheat Flour.—Re-establishment of Duties fixed by the Customs Tariff.**

**SPAIN—SWITZERLAND.**

The Board of Trade have received information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that, in accordance with the authority conferred on the Federal Council by Decree\*, the Swiss-Spanish Provisional Commercial Agreement of the 29th August, 1905†, has been prolonged until the 1st July next by an Exchange of Notes between the two Governments.

[As reported in the "Journal" for the 2nd February (p. 366), the Spanish Government had already extended the application of the Provisional Agreement until the 1st July by Decree, so far as regards imports into Spain.]

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—SWITZERLAND.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Proclamation by the President of the United States, dated the 1st January, 1906, putting into force certain concessions accorded to Switzerland under the provisions of Section 3 of the United States Tariff Act. The following is the text of the Proclamation:—

**Reciprocity Arrangement.**

"Whereas the Government of Switzerland decreed the removal on and after 1st January, 1906, of all differential Customs duties from the products of the soil and industry of the United States, and granted to the same the benefit of the Swiss conventional tariff rates, by which action in the judgment of the President reciprocal and equivalent concessions are established in favour of the said products of the United States.

"Now, therefore, be it known that I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, acting under the

\* See "Board of Trade Journal" for the 8th February, 1906, p. 275.

† See "Board of Trade Journal" for the 14th September, 1905, p. 500.

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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“ authority conferred by the third section of the Tariff Act of  
 “ the United States approved 24th July, 1897, do hereby  
 “ suspend during the continuance in force of the said concessions  
 “ by the Government of Switzerland the imposition and collec-  
 “ tion of the duties imposed by the first section of said Act upon  
 “ the articles hereinafter specified being the products of the  
 “ soil and industry of Switzerland; and do declare in place  
 “ thereof the following rates of duty provided in the third  
 “ section of said Act to be in force and effect from and after  
 “ the date of this Proclamation, of which the officers and  
 “ citizens of the United States will take due notice, namely:

“ Upon argols, or crude tartar, or wine lees, crude, five per  
 “ centum *ad valorem*.

“ Upon brandies, or other spirits manufactured or distilled  
 “ from grain or other materials, one dollar and seventy-five  
 “ cents per proof gallon.

“ Upon still wines, and vermouth, in casks, thirty-five cents  
 “ per gallon; in bottles or jugs, per case of one dozen bottles  
 “ or jugs containing each not more than one quart and more  
 “ than one pint, or twenty-four bottles or jugs containing each  
 “ not more than one pint, one dollar and twenty-five cents per  
 “ case, and any excess beyond these quantities found in such  
 “ bottles or jugs shall be subject to a duty of four cents per  
 “ pint or fractional part thereof, but no separate or additional  
 “ duty shall be assessed upon the bottles or jugs.

“ Upon paintings in oil or water colours, pastels, pen and  
 “ ink drawings, and statuary, fifteen per centum *ad valorem*.

“ In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and  
 “ caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

“ Done at the City of Washington this first day of January,  
 “ in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and  
 “ six, and of the Independence of the United States of  
 “ America the one hundred and thirtieth.

“ THEODORE ROOSEVELT.”

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**PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.**

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of  
 telegraphic information to the effect that the  
 President of the United States has approved  
 a Bill increasing the duty on cotton splits.  
 It is understood, that the increased duties are  
 to come into force on the 27th April.

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## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

**Revised Tables of Freeboard.** The Board of Trade have issued, under section 438 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, instructions to their surveyors containing the revised Tables of Freeboard. These tables, with explanatory notes, are intended for the information and guidance of the surveyors in assigning load lines to vessels. Rules for the assignment of freeboards to turret deck and shelter deck vessels are also included. Copies of the instructions may be purchased, either directly or through any bookseller, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.; or Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin, at a cost of 6d. each exclusive of postage.

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### RUSSIA.

**Orenburg-Tashkend Railway.** A despatch has been received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg, reporting that according to a local paper, the traffic on the Orenburg-Tashkend Railway shows three post and four mixed goods and passenger trains as leaving Orenburg for Kazalinsk per week. Goods trains are not noted in the time-table. It is also stated that through connection may be expected in a fortnight's time from the present date (despatch dated 19th February), and that the service between Orenburg and Tashkend will be accelerated from seventy-six hours to about sixty-five. The tariff will also be lowered. It is believed that the damage caused by floods last year has now been made good.

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### BELGIUM.

**New Ss. Service between Antwerp and the River Plate.** H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) reports that a Belgian company has recently been constituted at Antwerp under the name of the "Compagnie Royale Belge Argentine," with a capital of three millions of francs, with the object of inaugurating a new service of steamers between Antwerp and the River Plate. The service is for the present to be a monthly one. The steamers, of an average tonnage of 5,500 tons gross, will be under the Belgian flag, and are to be commanded by officers of Belgian nationality.

The company has secured four vessels (of which two are new ships) for the service.

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### ITALY.

**Port Construction at Nervi.** The German Consul at Genoa reports the laying of the foundation stone of a new harbour and docks at Nervi. The work is being undertaken by German capital, and will be finished by about the end of August. Its completion is expected to aid considerably in the industrial development of Nervi and its neighbourhood.

## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY. CANADA.

The American Iron and Steel Association have published in their "Bulletin" of the 15th February, statistics, received direct from the manufacturers, of the production of all kinds of pig iron in Canada in the calendar year 1905. The total production in that year amounted to 468,003 tons, against 270,942 tons in 1904, an increase of 197,061 tons, or over 72 per cent. The production in 1905 was much the largest in the history of the Dominion and exceeded that of 1902, the year of next largest production, by 148,446 tons, or over 46 per cent. Of the total production last year 432,870 tons were made with coke, 4,836 tons with charcoal and coke mixed, and 30,297 tons with charcoal.

The production of basic pig iron in Canada in 1905 amounted to 172,102 tons, against 70,133 tons in 1904, and the production of Bessemer pig iron to 149,203 tons, against 26,016 tons in 1904. The production of malleable Bessemer pig iron in 1905 amounted to 3,300 tons; foundry pig iron, 139,528 tons; forge pig iron, 3,500 tons; and white and mottled and miscellaneous grades of pig iron, including castings made direct from the furnace, 370 tons. Neither ferro-silicon, ferro-phosphorus, spiegeleisen, nor ferro-manganese was made. The quantity of limestone consumed for fluxing purposes by blast furnaces in Canada in 1905 amounted to 290,310 tons.

On 31st December 1905, Canada had 14 completed blast furnaces, of which 9 were in blast and 5 were idle.

## COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The following figures showing the gold yield of the various Australian States during 1905, with comparative totals for 1904, are taken from the "Journal of Commerce" (Melbourne). The figures in the South Australian total are estimates based on past yields:—

State.					1904.	1905.
					Fine ozs.	Fine ozs.
New South Wales	...	...	...	...	269,817	274,267
Victoria	...	...	...	...	771,298	732,603
Queensland	...	...	...	...	624,917	578,364
West Australia	...	...	...	...	1,983,230	1,955,316
South Australia	...	...	...	...	21,886	20,982
Tasmania	...	...	...	...	65,921	67,893
Total, fine ozs.					3,737,069	3,629,430
Value					£ 15,940,977	15,456,909

The "Journal" gives the export of gold from New Zealand in 1905 as 520,486 ozs., valued at 2,093,936*l.*, as against 520,320 ozs., valued at 1,987,501*l.* in 1904.

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.***TRANSVAAL.**

The annual report for the year 1905 of the Transvaal Chamber of Mines states that work on the various coal fields in the Transvaal was steady throughout the year, the relative figures for 1904 and 1905 being as follows :—

		Tons.		Value at Pits' Mouth. £
1905	.....	2,606,799	.....	846,272
1904	.....	2,409,033	.....	883,891

In December, 1905, there were 25 producing collieries at work, viz. :—7 in the Boksburg District, 11 at Middelburg, and 7 in other districts. These figures show an increase of 2 companies when compared with the corresponding months in 1904.

**RUSSIA.**

The “*Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels*” (Brussels) gives, on the authority of the Bureau of Statistics of Kharkoff, the following statistics of the coal production in 1905.

	1904.	1905.
	Pouds.	Pouds.
Donetz ... ..	803,340,000	792,400,000
Dombrova... ..	287,030,000	220,000,000
Moscow ... ..	14,400,000	14,100,000
Caucasus ... ..	2,620,000	2,000,000
Other districts ... ..	45,430,000	40,000,000
Total ... ..	1,152,820,000	1,068,500,000

Poud = 36 lbs.

There was a falling-off of 25 per cent. in production in Poland, but, as is shown above, only a slight decline in Donetz. Stocks in the latter district are, however, said to have increased 50 per cent., whilst they are practically *nil* in Poland.

**NORWAY.**

H.M. Minister at Christiania (Sir A. J. Herbert, K.C.V.O.) has forwarded particulars of shipbuilding in Norway in 1905 from which it appears that that country ranks seventh on the list of the shipbuilding countries of the world with 64 ships of 53,000 tons and 32,000 i.h.p. These vessels were built chiefly at Nyland (9 ships of 10,200 tons), Fevig (6 ships of 9,600 tons), Frederikstad (8 ships of 7,200 tons), Bergen (6 ships of 7,000 tons), Laxevaag (6 ships of 6,000 tons), and Framnaes (6 ships of 5,000 tons).

### *Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

The machinery was made at Akers (6,800 i.h.p.), Bergen (6,700 i.h.p.), Nyland (6,200 i.h.p.), Fristad (4,200 i.h.p.), and Laxevaag (3,800 i.h.p.)

It is added that the number of vessels built in 1905 was the greatest that could be produced in the country, owing to lack of facilities. As it is, a sufficient number of vessels cannot be built for the country's requirements, and in the case of the larger vessels, their construction cannot be undertaken with profit.

Prices in 1905 are said to have been satisfactory.

#### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) reports that, in a recent issue of the "Manufacturers' Record," attention is drawn to the signing of a lease of 50,000 acres of iron ore property in Potts Creek Valley (Virginia). The immediate and extensive development of these properties is contemplated. They have been known for some years to contain brown hematite of good quality. It is reported that the term of the lease is 40 years and it is understood that there is to be a minimum production of 500,000 tons a year at a royalty of 20 cents per ton.

Iron ores of a similar nature have been mined for some years in an adjacent district and their value has been demonstrated. The formation is what is known as Oriskany ore, out of which high grade iron can be made without mixture with other ores. The ores are not suitable for making Bessemer steel, being too high in phosphorus, but may be adapted to the basic process.

Should the properties turn out to be as valuable as is expected it will greatly increase the production of the Virginia iron works which have had difficulty for some time in securing a sufficient quantity of ore.

#### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—PHILIPPINES.**

According to a report by the Belgian Consul for the Philippines, extensive coal deposits have been discovered in the small island of Batan, on the south-east of Luzon. The seams in this island are said to be so rich that one square half-mile in the coal area is estimated to furnish an annual output of 200,000 tons; the quality is excellent and some of the layers are 13 feet thick.

### **YARNS AND TEXTILES.**

#### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to the undermentioned countries during the month ended 31st January, 1905 and 1906, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

**Exports of  
Cotton Goods.**

*Yarns and Textiles.*

To						Month ended 31st January.	
						1905.	1906.
<b>Coloured and uncoloured cloths—</b>						Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	1,929,287	1,589,536
France	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	62,983	502,500
Other Europe	...	...	...	...	...	1,049,648	1,163,692
British North America	...	...	...	...	...	4,760,393	5,421,381
Central America and British Honduras	...	...	...	...	...	15,716,414	16,220,395
Mexico	...	...	...	...	...	1,850,643	1,876,815
Cuba	...	...	...	...	...	8,848,471	15,625,011
Other West Indies and Bermuda	...	...	...	...	...	14,152,454	20,540,554
Argentina	...	...	...	...	...	1,443,862	1,648,425
Brazil	...	...	...	...	...	5,371,457	4,980,363
Chile	...	...	...	...	...	7,416,646	10,661,885
Colombia	...	...	...	...	...	12,614,714	6,371,310
Venezuela	...	...	...	...	...	4,290,987	3,685,629
Other South America	...	...	...	...	...	3,755,787	4,391,841
Chinese Empire	...	...	...	...	...	231,264,802	335,786,161
British East Indies	...	...	...	...	...	3,150,359	7,907,184
Hong-Kong	...	...	...	...	...	298,748	207,883
Japan	...	...	...	...	...	9,287,104	1,901,484
British Australasia	...	...	...	...	...	2,989,770	4,612,610
Philippine Islands	...	...	...	...	...	8,707,314	1,557,998
Other Asia and Oceania	...	...	...	...	...	12,375,866	16,462,905
British Africa	...	...	...	...	...	2,371,202	4,644,401
All other Africa	...	...	...	...	...	385,371	371,801
Total quantity	...	...	...	...	Yards	354,094,282	468,131,764
Total value	...	...	...	...	Dols.	20,454,214	27,844,144
<b>Other cotton goods—</b>						Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	667,869	785,045
Belgium	...	...	...	...	...	42,259	175,656
France	...	...	...	...	...	7,931	41,302
Germany	...	...	...	...	...	389,978	499,024
Netherlands	...	...	...	...	...	24,042	29,888
Other Europe	...	...	...	...	...	45,569	59,237
British North America	...	...	...	...	...	1,246,770	1,428,214
Central America and British Honduras	...	...	...	...	...	410,679	402,340
Mexico	...	...	...	...	...	320,546	321,054
Cuba	...	...	...	...	...	231,696	273,925
Other West Indies and Bermuda	...	...	...	...	...	119,431	133,629
Argentina	...	...	...	...	...	171,563	122,250
Brazil	...	...	...	...	...	44,053	28,456
Chile	...	...	...	...	...	12,331	14,635
Colombia	...	...	...	...	...	60,875	25,182
Venezuela	...	...	...	...	...	12,087	19,911
Other South America	...	...	...	...	...	30,916	38,857
Chinese Empire	...	...	...	...	...	60,174	135,395
British East Indies	...	...	...	...	...	4,870	6,645
Hong-Kong	...	...	...	...	...	46,394	89,171
British Australasia	...	...	...	...	...	324,322	365,023
Philippine Islands	...	...	...	...	...	47,365	56,506
Other Asia and Oceania	...	...	...	...	...	142,569	81,028
British Africa	...	...	...	...	...	99,031	151,587
All other Africa	...	...	...	...	...	3,727	9,395
Other countries	...	...	...	...	...	1,186	3,434
Total value	...	...	...	...	Dols.	4,568,233	5,296,789
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported	...	...	...	...	Dols.	25,022,447	33,140,933

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 10th March, 1906, were as follows:—

Corn Prices.	Wheat	...	...	...	28s.	5d.
	Barley	...	...	...	25s.	1d.
	Oats	...	...	...	18s.	8d.

For further particulars see p. 525.

A statement is published on p. 526, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 10th March, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

#### Imports of Agricultural Produce.

### BRITISH GUIANA.

The Demerara "Argosy" gives a brief account of cotton and rice experiments conducted by Mr. Pasea on behalf of the Board of Agriculture:—

#### Cotton and Rice Experiments.

The four varieties of Egyptian cotton were found to be doing fairly well, while the Sea Island was growing luxuriantly. The plants are very vigorous, and there is every promise of a good crop being reaped. The soil on the plantation where the experiments were being carried out is a somewhat light loam, and the mode of growth bears no resemblance to the manner in which cotton grows on the clay soils of the colony.

Mr. Pasea is also experimenting with the varieties of rice, the seeds having been supplied to him from the Botanic Gardens. Much importance is attached by the Board of Agriculture to these experiments, carried out as they are on abandoned cane fields.

### BRITISH WEST INDIES—BARBADOS.

The "Agricultural News" (Barbados), of 17th February reports that an Act of great importance to the cotton industry in Barbados has recently been passed by the Legislature. It is entitled the "Sale of Cotton Act, 1906," and provides for the triennial appointment of cotton inspectors by the vestries of each parish and for their due payment; for the registration of all lands under cotton cultivation; for the issuing of certificates to sellers and the granting of licences to purchasers; and for the penalties to follow on a breach of its regulations.

#### Sale of Cotton Act, 1906.

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*Agriculture.*

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**PERSIA.**

The "Nachrichten für Handel" reports that with a view to developing the silk industry of Persia, which **Silk Cultivation.** has of late shown a falling-off, a department has been established by official decree for the purpose of giving attention to various matters in connection with the improvement of the product. Its objects will include the testing of imported silk-worm eggs; inspection of cocoons, with reference to their proper treatment and the prevention of disease; establishment of schools of instruction; dissemination of reports on the subject; purchase of silk-worm eggs; laying out of mulberry plantations; purchase of utensils, tools, &c.

The central office of the department will be at the Caliph's residence, Teheran. At the ports where silk-worm eggs are imported, an inspector will examine the eggs and place a distinguishing mark upon the packages. A similar system will obtain at the frontier Custom houses.

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**MISCELLANEOUS.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 8th March, 1906, **Cotton Statistics.** was 95,642 (including 148 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the ten weeks ended the 8th March was 1,124,406 (including 974 bales British West Indian and 223 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 8th March, 1906, 9,487 bales, and for the ten weeks, 98,339.

For further details see p. 525.

A statement showing the number of receiving orders and administration orders under Sec. 125 (Deceased **Bankruptcy** Debtors' Estates) gazetted in England and **Statistics.** Wales during the month and two months ending 28th February, 1906, will be found on pp. 527-8.

The following persons nominated by a local authority to the post of inspector of weights and measures have passed the examination provided for by the 8th section of the Weights and Measures Acts, 1904:—S. P. C. Bass, Stafford Borough; J. Chamberlain, Macclesfield; H. J. Gardner, Kidderminster; G. Marshall, Bootle; F. W. Myers, Leicestershire; and A. Ormerod, Blackburn.

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*Miscellaneous.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of Act No. 19 of 1905 of the Parliament of the Australian Commonwealth, relating to immigrants under contract to perform manual labour in the Commonwealth. Paragraph (g) of section three, and the whole of section eleven of the Immigration Restriction Act of 1901, the regulations under which were noted in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 6th March, 1902, p. 466, is repealed by the Act of 1905.

The text of the Act may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**SOUTH AFRICA.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the South African Customs Statistical Bureau a copy of the second quarterly return issued by the Bureau since its establishment, the figures being for the six months ending 31st December, 1905. The tables contained in this return are compiled on the same principle as those in the first quarterly return. An important additional table is, however, included, showing the quantities and value of the imports into British South Africa of certain descriptions of merchandise in which at present it would appear that articles of foreign manufacture are competing successfully with British goods.

**FRANCE-GUADELOUPE.**

According to the "Feuille de Renseignements," the organ of the French Colonial Office, the trade of Guadeloupe in 1904 showed a further falling off, due particularly to the crisis in the sugar trade. The values of the imports and exports are shown in the following table:—

							1903.	1904.
							Francs.	Francs.
Imports	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,359,000	13,268,000
Exports	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,168,000	12,926,000
Total trade							35,527,000	26,194,000

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*Miscellaneous.*

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Amongst exports, rum showed a noteworthy increase, namely to 6,661,000 litres, as compared with 5,828,000 litres in 1903, and 2,500,000 litres in 1901, and it is considered that this industry promises further development. The cultivation of oranges and bananas is spreading, as also is that of cotton.

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**SPAIN.**

In a report on the fishing industry of north-west Spain, the Acting British Consul at Corunna (Mr. T. Guyatt) dwells on the importance that port is acquiring as a fishing port, and remarks that as this development is steadily increasing the trade with the United Kingdom, especially in coal, it is of interest to note that there are now twelve trawlers all bought in the United Kingdom, and, as the owners are pleased with the investment, more orders for steam trawlers are to be placed, Hull being the favourite port.

In view of the satisfactory results of the sales in Madrid of the fish caught in these fishing grounds, there is a movement to obtain from the Railway Companies reduced tariffs to send the fish to the Barcelona markets. If this be accomplished, it is presumed, says the Consul, that more trawlers will be purchased.

This sudden development of the fishing industry, adds Mr. Guyatt, may have a most important future. Larger trawlers may be obtained for the cod fisheries, and if the duties on cod be raised, it will necessarily affect those countries exporting cod to Spain.

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**BRAZIL.**

In reporting on the damage done by the recent floods in Brazil, H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. A. Chapman) states that the incessant rains that lasted over a month in the interior caused serious floods and inundations and much loss and damage to property, especially in the States of Rio de Janeiro and Minas Geraes. Many of the railways suffered severely from washouts, landslips, and the destruction of bridges, and in some districts all means of communication were stopped.

Campos on the Parahyba has perhaps suffered the most, and the sugar crop of that district is considered entirely lost. At Campos the distress has been so severe that provisions have had to be sent to the inhabitants by train and sea.

In the city of Rio de Janeiro several landslips have destroyed house property and caused loss of life.

*Miscellaneous.***BRAZIL**—*continued.*

With reference to the article published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st June, 1905, pp. 399-400, **Rate of Exchange.** relative to Brazilian exchange and its effects on trade, H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. A. Chapman) has forwarded the following statement showing for the six years 1900-1905 (1) the yearly average exchange at 90 days sight on London, and (2) the average currency value of 20s. sterling according to the average exchange:—

Year.							Average exchange at 90 days sight on London.	Average currency value of 20s. sterling.
							Pence.	Milreis.
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	25·263
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 $\frac{3}{8}$	21·099
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 $\frac{3}{8}$	20·052
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	20·000
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 $\frac{7}{8}$	19·642
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	15·103

Mr. Chapman remarks that to this depreciation in the currency value must also be added the increase in prices caused by increased tariffs and taxation.

He quotes the following from a January number of the "Jornal do Commercio," the principal newspaper of Brazil:—

"In January, 1896, exchange was 9 $\frac{1}{16}$ d. and the sovereign was worth 26·482 dols., now exchange is 16 $\frac{1}{16}$ d. and the sovereign worth 14·275 dols., whilst the agio of gold has fallen 137 per cent. from 197·93 per cent. to 60·60 per cent. A bag of rice in 1896 cost 17·750 dols., or less than 15s., to-day it costs 22·750 dols. or 31s. . Thus the price of rice is doubled. Again, 16 litres of sweet oil in 1890 cost 24·000 dols. and now cost 21·250 dols. or 10s. more. A barrel of dried cod fish in 1896 cost 47·500 dols. (35s.) and now costs 44·500 dols. (62s.), an increase of 27s. per barrel. With regard to jerked beef, that from the Plate cost 500 reis per kilog. in 1896 and now costs 600 reis, and this when the agio of gold has fallen 137 per cent. Jerked beef from Rio Grande do Sul has gone up from 330 to 460 reis. Wine which in 1896 cost 15*l.* sterling per pipe now costs 20*l.* and so on."

## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 10 Weeks ended 8th March, 1906 :—

	Week ended 8th March, 1906.	10 Weeks ended 8th March, 1906.	Week ended 8th March, 1906.	10 Weeks ended 8th March, 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	53,789	827,867	3,120	45,180
Brazilian ... ..	15,009	81,066	70	3,690
East Indian ... ..	7,218	37,657	797	11,871
Egyptian ... ..	17,935	163,765	5,173	36,148
Miscellaneous ... ..	1,691*	14,051†	327	1,450
Total ... ..	95,642	1,124,406	9,487	98,339

\* Including 148 bales British West Indian.

† „ 974 „ „ and 223 bales British West African.

### Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 10th March, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

						Average Price.					
						Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
						s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 10th March, 1906	...	...	...	...	...	28	5	25	1	18	8
Corresponding week in—											
1899 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25	10	26	3	16	10
1900 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25	10	24	6	16	11
1901 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25	9	25	1	17	7
1902 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	27	1	26	6	20	6
1903 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	25	1	22	10	17	0
1904 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	29	1	22	5	16	8
1905 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	30	9	25	2	16	10

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

### Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 10th March, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

					Week ended 10th Mar., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>						
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	...	...	...	Number.	6,718	12,223
Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	"	2,562	7,603
Swine	...	...	...	"	—	—
Horses	...	...	...	"	444	171
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>						
Beef	...	...	...	Cwts.	111,347	77,459
Mutton	...	...	...	"	57,746	15,162
Pork	...	...	...	"	9,002	14,654
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>						
Bacon	...	...	...	Cwts.	123,741	124,470
Beef	...	...	...	"	671	4,800
Hams	...	...	...	"	15,080	25,854
Pork	...	...	...	"	2,547	4,835
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh	...	...	...	"	16,059	16,391
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	...	...	...	"	9,017	14,189
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>						
Butter	...	...	...	Cwts.	89,542	58,776
Margarine	...	...	...	"	21,773	22,397
Cheese	...	...	...	"	23,587	16,210
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	...	...	...	"	10	—
" cream	...	...	...	"	45	39
" condensed	...	...	...	"	18,194	19,141
" preserved, other kinds...	...	...	...	"	25	17
Eggs	...	...	...	Grt. Hundr.	226,213	364,526
Poultry	...	...	...	Value £	41,720	28,371
Game	...	...	...	"	3,354	2,149
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	...	...	...	Cwts.	2,429	4,025
Lard	...	...	...	"	45,664	51,590
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>						
Wheat	...	...	...	Cwts.	1,692,400	2,364,200
Wheat meal and flour	...	...	...	"	258,400	172,800
Barley	...	...	...	"	437,600	302,500
Oats	...	...	...	"	197,000	324,400
Peas	...	...	...	"	28,640	48,480
Beans	...	...	...	"	2,480	43,100
Maize or Indian corn	...	...	...	"	1,398,600	972,600
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>						
Apples	...	...	...	Cwts.	32,734	58,352
Apricots and peaches	...	...	...	"	45	41
Bananas	...	...	...	Bunches.	111,790	79,731
Cherries	...	...	...	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	...	...	...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	...	...	...	"	—	—
Grapes	...	...	...	"	798	193
Lemons	...	...	...	"	28,638	15,355
Oranges	...	...	...	"	209,941	228,634
Pears	...	...	...	"	496	135
Plums	...	...	...	"	410	76
Strawberries	...	...	...	"	—	—
Unenumerated	...	...	...	"	2,312	533
Hay	...	...	...	Tons.	2,652	1,500
Straw	...	...	...	"	2,193	2,272
Moss Litter	...	...	...	"	1,342	2,078
Hops	...	...	...	Cwts.	941	1,045
Locust Beans	...	...	...	"	13,458	7,272
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>						
Onions	...	...	...	Bushels.	112,976	48,347
Potatoes	...	...	...	Cwts.	7,779	19,889
Tomatoes	...	...	...	"	24,678	38,756
Unenumerated	...	...	...	Value £	11,888	9,377
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>						
Preserved by canning	...	...	...	Cwts.	2,739	1,914
				"	3,947	8,809

### Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders and Administration Orders under Sec. 125 (Deceased Debtors' Estates) of the Act of 1883 gazetted in the undermentioned Principal Trades and Occupations during the periods indicated:—

	February.		Two Months ended February.	
	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.
Total gazetted... ..	No. 401	No. 400	No. 829	No. 829
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations:—				
Grocers, &c.... ..	34	21	64	50
Builders ... ..	32	22	58	50
Farmers ... ..	15	28	49	54
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c. ... ..	22	28	48	55
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c. ... ..	15	11	32	23
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c. ... ..	13	9	28	20
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ... ..	11	8	25	14
Butchers ... ..	10	4	23	9
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c. ... ..	10	7	21	13
Bakers ... ..	9	12	20	33
Drapers, haberdashers, &c. ... ..	9	9	20	19
Coal and coke merchants and dealers ... ..	10	9	18	13
Tailors, &c. ... ..	5	8	16	17
Clerks, commercial and general ... ..	11	2	12	8
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ... ..	5	4	10	6
Travellers, commercial ... ..	4	3	9	7
Lodging-house keepers ... ..	7	2	9	4
Engineers and founders, &c. ... ..	3	3	8	5
Printers, booksellers, and publishers ... ..	4	2	8	4
Auctioneers ... ..	4	8	7	12
Contractors ... ..	4	2	7	4
Agents, commission and general ... ..	1	10	6	20
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ... ..	4	6	6	8
Tobacconists, &c. ... ..	2	4	6	8
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses ... ..	—	2	6	6
Cabinet makers and upholsterers ... ..	4	—	6	5
Merchants, general ... ..	2	3	6	4
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c. ... ..	2	1	6	4
Officers in Army ... ..	4	2	6	2

Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	February.		Two Months ended February.	
	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations— <i>continued</i> :	No.	No.	No.	No.
Millers ... ..	6	—	6	1
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors ... ..	2	5	5	9
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers ... ..	1	3	5	7
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ..	1	1	5	7
Provision merchants, &c. ... ..	4	3	5	7
Furniture dealers and makers ... ..	2	3	5	6
General dealers ... ..	1	2	5	6
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c. ... ..	4	1	5	2
Confectioners ... ..	2	4	4	9
Clothiers, outfitters, &c. ... ..	1	3	4	6
Ironmongers ... ..	3	1	4	4
Cattle and pig dealers ... ..	2	1	4	4
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ..	1	2	4	4
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers	3	2	4	3
Hosiery, gloves, &c. ... ..	2	—	4	1
Wine and spirit merchants, &c. ... ..	2	—	4	—
Carpenters and joiners ... ..	1	5	3	7
Solicitors ... ..	—	4	3	7
Gardeners, florists, &c. ... ..	2	3	3	6
Wheelwrights ... ..	1	1	3	5
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ...	1	3	3	3
Brokers, stock and share ... ..	1	3	3	3
Carriage, &c., builders ... ..	2	2	3	2
Architects and surveyors ... ..	2	—	3	2
Hairdressers... ..	—	3	2	9
Milliners, dressmakers, &c. ... ..	1	3	2	7
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ...	2	5	2	6
Directors and promoters of public companies ..	1	4	2	6
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ..	1	1	2	5
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c. ... ..	1	1	2	3
Cotton spinners and manufacturers ... ..	—	1	2	1
Timber merchants and wood dealers ... ..	—	4	1	5
Stationers ... ..	1	2	1	3
Saddlers and harness makers ... ..	—	1	1	2
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ...	—	—	—	5
Fishing smack owners, and masters ... ..	—	1	—	2

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 2d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month.\* The following are among the more important articles which will appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Trade Unions 1902-1904; Report of the Royal Commission on Trade Disputes and Trade Combinations; Report of Departmental Committee on Vagrancy; Seasonal Fluctuations in the Clothing Trades; and Relief of the Unemployed.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

#### No. 3,533. Trade of Constantinople and District, 1905.

Comparing the average of the quinquennial period 1896-1900 with the total for 1904, the imports from the United Kingdom show an increase of 33 per cent., Austria-Hungary nearly 60 per cent., Germany 130 per cent., and Italy 98 per cent.

Imports of United Kingdom produce and manufactures

during 1905 for the whole of Turkey.

Suggestions for improving British trade in cottons, woollens, &c.

Details of import duties, Custom house expenses, landing charges, quay dues, portorage, &c., in the port of Constantinople. Development of shipping communications.

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\* It can be purchased through any newsagent, price, 1d.

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*Government Publications.*

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**No. 3,534. Trade of Marseilles, 1905.**

Recovery from effects of strikes; increase in exchange of produce between Marseilles and the United Kingdom.

Increasing competition in the coal trade.

Unsatisfactory condition of flour and semolina industries.

Position of the silk trade; stock in December, 1905, slightly inferior to that in December, 1904.

**No. 3,535. Trade of Amsterdam, 1905.**

Notes on prices of and course of trade in grain, cinchona bark, cocoa, coffee, hides, indigo, spices, oils, tobacco, &c.

Activity in shipbuilding;

record tonnage in course of construction.

Account of harbour improvements, lock construction, canal works, railway extensions, &c.

Hints to British manufacturers and traders.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Groningen and Ymuiden.

**OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*Census of the British Empire, 1901. Report with Summary and Detailed Tables for the several Colonies, &c., Area, Houses, and Population; also Population classified by Ages, Condition as to Marriage, Occupations, Birthplaces, Religions, Degrees of Education, and Infirmities. [Cd. 2,660]. Price 3s. 5d.*

This series of comparative and detailed tables has been compiled for each British Colony, Dependency, and Protectorate, giving, as fully as the data permit, information concerning (a) area and dwelling-houses; (b) number of the people, distinguishing age, sex, and condition as to marriage; (c) birth-places of the people, their religion, education, occupation, and their infirmities.

*Life Assurance Companies' Return. 30. Price 3s. 5d.*

This return, which is issued annually by the Board of Trade, contains statements of accounts and abstracts of actuarial reports of life assurance companies deposited at the Board of Trade during the year 1905, under section 10 of the Life Assurance Companies Act, 1870. The total number of companies dealt with in the summary of accounts is 96, of which 77 are classed as ordinary, 10 as industrial, and 9 appear in both classes. The net amount of assurances in force, as shown by the last returns of companies, was 697,627,128*l.* in ordinary, and 241,866,981*l.* in industrial, business.

*Report on Spinning and Weaving Flax and Tow. [Cd. 2851.] Price 2½d.*

This is a report made to the Home Office by Mr. S. A. Bonner, who was appointed to hold a public enquiry with regard to the Draft Regulations proposed to be made for the processes of spinning and weaving flax and tow and the processes incidental thereto.

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*Government Publications.***LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.**

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1906, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	<b>EUROPE—</b>				
	<b>Belgium :</b>			Netherlands Indies	
3532	Antwerp, Shipping and Navigation ... 1905	7d.	3524	Finances ... 1905-6	1d.
	<b>Denmark :</b>			<b>Servia :</b>	
3525	Denmark (Supplementary) ... 1904	1d.	3529	Servia ... 1904	1½d.
	<b>France :</b>			<b>Turkey :</b>	
3528	Indo-China ... 1903-4	7d.	3533	Constantinople ... 1905	2d.
3534	Marseilles ... 1905	1d.		<b>AMERICA, NORTH—</b>	
644	<i>French Octroi System</i> ...	1½d.	3531	<b>Mexico :</b>	
	<b>German Empire :</b>			Mexican Budget ... 1905-6	½d.
3526	Bavaria... 1904 and part of 1905	1d.	643	<b>United States of America :</b>	
3523	German Trade with India...	1d.		<i>Coal Industry of the United States in 1904</i> ...	3d.
645	<i>Agriculture in Germany</i> ...	1½d.		<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>	
	<b>Italy :</b>			<b>Brazil :</b>	
3530	South Italy ... 1905	1½d.	3521	Santos ... 1902-4	2d.
	<b>Netherlands and Colonies :</b>			<b>WEST INDIES—</b>	
3535	Amsterdam ... 1905	2½d.			
3527	Netherlands Finances 1904-5 to 1905-6	1½d.	3522	Cuba (Supplementary) 1904	2d.

**Treaty Series.**

The following number of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1906, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C. :—

No.		Price.
	<b>EUROPE—</b>	
1	<b>France :</b> Agreement between the United Kingdom and France additional to the Money Order Convention of December 8, 1882 ...	½d.
2	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting telegraphic communication between Mauritius and Réunion ...	½d.

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, also the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

**Transvaal and Orange River Colony.**—A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, on the lines of the agency established at the same address by the Government of Cape Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Superintendent in charge of the Office deals with, and supplies free, information in regard to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c.

*March, 1906.*

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes:—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

March 22, 1906.

[No. 486

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 580.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
German woollen cloths sold in Alexandria	8th March, 1906	476
Evaporated bananas from the Seychelles Islands ... ..	15th Feb., 1906	333
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.

Cape of Good Hope.

Dominion of Canada.

Transvaal and Orange

Queensland.

River Colony.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 581.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The Board of Directors of the Burma Railways Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of Miscellaneous Tools and Stores. Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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at the Company's Offices, 199, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C. For each specification a fee of 10s. will be charged, which will not be returned. Tenders enclosed in sealed envelopes and marked "Tender for Miscellaneous Tools and Stores" must be delivered not later than noon on Thursday, the 29th March. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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**CANADA.**

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade Offices, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London firm of wholesale and export saddlers are desirous of appointing agents in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, and other Canadian centres on commission terms.

An Edinburgh firm with a large connection for the sale of split peas wish to get into communication with Canadian shippers.

A London firm manufacturing tins such as are used for packing butter, preserved fruits, potted meats, &c., are desirous of getting into communication with Canadian users.

**Canadian Enquiry.**—A Canadian chemical company have requested to be referred to English firms manufacturing surgical plasters, especially of the rubber adhesive variety.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A London house dealing in high-class comestibles and other grocery goods are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A London firm seek the agency of a first-class British Columbia packer of tinned salmon for their South African Branch.

**Canadian Enquiries.**—A Canadian company producing high grade refined graphite in all forms invite correspondence from United Kingdom importers.

A Montreal firm seek a good agency in chamois skins.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Openings for British Trade.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—VICTORIA.**

The Canadian Commercial Agent at Melbourne (Mr. D. H. Ross) reports that a company in that city purpose establishing a new industry in Victoria, by erecting a plant for the distillation of wood, in order to procure a number of by-products, particularly acetate of lime, from which acetate of soda and other chemicals are obtained. A suitable wood is readily available, and negotiations are proceeding with the Government to secure a grant of Crown lands. The cost of the plant and buildings is estimated at about 12,000*l*.

Mr. Ross also reports an opening for skates in Melbourne in connection with the construction of an ice skating rink in that city. The building is rapidly nearing completion, and the rink is expected to be opened at the end of April.

In regard to the dairy industry, Mr. Ross remarks that if a milking machine of entirely satisfactory mechanism were invented, there would be an enormous market available in Australasia. The only retarding factor in the butter industry has been the trouble of ensuring proper milking. Mr. Ross adds:—

“Paid labour has given generally poor results. Once surmount this labour question, and a vast expansion of the butter industry in Victoria will take place. The means to increase the herds are at hand, and in three years the number of cows milking could be doubled. Hundreds of farmers now grain growing only would enter into dairying if the labour trouble were removed. The milking machine is the solution of this difficulty.”

**BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.**

The “Natal Government Gazette” of 20th February contains a notice inviting applications for a lease, for the purpose of rubber extraction only, of a portion of the Ingwavuma district of Zululand. The lease will be for 25 years, and will carry no right of renewal. It must be for a lump sum per annum, in addition to a royalty of 6*d*. per lb. of rubber.

Applications must be addressed to the Minister of Agriculture, Pietermaritzburg, by the 2nd April.

According to a report by the Austro-Hungarian Consul at Johannesburg, there is a good demand for various leather goods in South Africa. Travelling bags come mainly from the United Kingdom and latterly from Germany. Cheap cigar cases are almost exclusively furnished by German makers;

**Plant for Wood  
Distillation.****Skates.****Milking  
Machines.****Lease for Rubber  
Extraction in  
Natal.****Leather Goods;  
Furniture;  
Linoleum.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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a certain number of these goods of a rather better quality are imported from Austria. This latter country also sends a large proportion of bronze goods, ashtrays, inkstands, &c., &c., for which there is a good demand in the country, especially at Christmas time.

From enquiries carried out among the large furniture shops in Johannesburg it appears that although the importation of better class furniture is slight, the demand is even now by no means large, and furniture dealers (retail and even wholesale dealers) restrict their orders very largely. In the cheaper class goods prices run very low owing to the large number of auction sales which are held.

There is a good demand for linoleum, as it constitutes an eminently suitable covering for floors in a hot climate. It is, however, worth noting that plain designs in linoleum are not in great demand. The public taste seems to run rather for dark colours and imitations of carpet patterns.

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**SWEDEN.**

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H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. Macgregor) forwards particulars of a notice calling for tenders for the supply of 1,900,000 kilos. of creosote oil for the use of the Swedish State Railways. 1,500,000 kilos. are to be delivered at Motala, in about five equal quantities, between 15th May and 15th July, and the remaining 400,000 kilos. at Töreboda during July. With the tenders a sample of at least two litres of the oil must be supplied.

Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud a Kreosotolja," should be addressed to "Kungl. Järnvägsstyrelsens Registrator, Stockholm," where they will be received up to noon on the 2nd April.

A copy of the specification and form of tender (in Swedish), together with the special regulations for testing creosote oil, may be inspected at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

H.M. Consul also forwards particulars of a notice calling for tenders for the supply of 7,200 kilos. of sal ammoniac. The quantity is to be supplied as follows:—4,800 kilos. in April-May; 300 in June; 600 in July; 600 in August; and 900 in October. The ammonia must—as far as possible—be free from iron, and the percentage of impurities which it contains must be stated. Samples must be sent with the tenders. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud a material," should be addressed "Kungl. Telegrafstyrelsen, Stockholm," where they will be received up to noon on 26th March.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**NORWAY.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are in receipt of detailed particulars from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray) of a call for tenders for the supply of steel plates to the Norwegian State Railways. Sealed tenders, marked "Anbud paa Leverance af Staalplader" should be addressed to "Maskiningeniørens Kontor, Bispegaden 12, Christiania, where they will be received up to 3 p.m. on the 3rd April.

The steel plates required must be of the best mild steel. The quantity is divided into 23 lots of varying sizes and thicknesses. Prices are to be quoted in kroner per kilog. for each lot, delivered free at the State Railway Works Yard in Christiania. Customs duty will be refunded to the deliverer if the plates are received in good condition. Tenders are to state when the goods can be delivered; great importance is attached to speedy delivery.

Conditions of tender (in Norwegian), and drawing, may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

NOTE.—Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers. In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

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**DENMARK.**

H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Captain Boyle) has forwarded a copy of the conditions of tender (in Danish) for the supply to the Copenhagen Lighting Department of about 14,000 tons of small coal. If the coal is not already known to the electricity works a sample will be required. The conditions may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. Copies may be obtained from the Director of Public Lighting, No. 22B, Vestre Boulevard, Copenhagen, to which address tenders, marked "Tilbud paa Kul" must be sent by midday on the 26th March,

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**NETHERLANDS.**

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) reports that tenders are invited by the Superintendent of the Gas Works at Delft for the supply and delivery of about 3,750 tons of English gas coal.

Particulars are obtainable at the offices of the Gas Works, and tenders will be received up to the 31st March.

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## *Openings for British Trade.*

### BELGIUM.

The "Moniteur Belge" contains a notice issued by the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux,"  
**Railway Plant.** inviting tenders, which will be opened on the 4th April, for the construction of part of the line from Quaregnon to Quévy. The estimated cost of the work is 55,772 francs (2,330*l.*), and a deposit of 5,500 francs (220*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, should be addressed to the General Manager of the Company, at 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels, where specifications, plans, &c., may be inspected. A copy of the specifications may be obtained on payment of 1 franc from M. Simon, rue d'Havré, 99, Mons.

### LUXEMBURG.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 14th March contains a notice inviting tenders, which will  
**Electric Power** be received until 1st June next, for supplying  
**Supply.** electricity to the town of Luxembourg for lighting and tramway traction. Full particulars may be obtained from the "Collège des bourgmestre et échevins, Luxembourg."

### PORTUGAL.

In his report on the trade of Oporto for 1905, H.M. Consul there (Mr. H. Grant) points out that there is an  
**Motor Cars.** increasing demand for motor cars, as can be seen by the fact that 60 were imported during 1905, as against 34 in 1904 and 26 in 1903. Of these 60, 49 came from France, 5 from Belgium, 3 from the United Kingdom, 2 from Germany, and 1 from Italy. The total value, as declared in the Custom-house, was 127,855 milreis (about 27,200*l.*).

Mr. Grant's report contains the following remarks based on enquiries made (in the absence of any published figures) among persons cognisant with the textile trade:—

"Jute yarns from Dundee continue to come in considerable quantities, to be manufactured into sacking by  
**Jute Yarns and** weaving mills, and also by smaller factories  
**Manufactures.** into stair and other carpets and table covers. The Germans are trying for the trade; but, so far as my information goes, hitherto without success.

"Jute manufactures, such as ornamental table covers, curtains and "novelties," seem to come from Germany and Belgium, the Dundee factories being apparently out of this trade altogether.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### PORTUGAL—*continued.*

“As has been more than once stated, the import trade in heavy cotton goods is quite a thing of the past, and in the dyeing and finishing cotton works (an industry which is on the increase) all the heavy goods sent to be finished are of native make, but the fine shirtings still come from Lancashire mills; consequently, the suitable British goods for this country are the light fine makes which will bleach and finish well.

“Grey and white piquets and figured cotton shirtings of medium and good qualities are still imported in fair quantities.

“The trade in woollen goods with the United Kingdom has been chiefly in dress fabrics of good and superior qualities, and navy and coloured serges of good qualities, also some medium felts and feltings made with cotton foundations.

“With regard to cloth for men’s clothing a considerable quantity for summer wear has been imported from the Continent, which, notwithstanding the high duty, comes out at a fairly moderate cost, owing to the favourable exchange. English and Scotch manufacturers would seem to do very little of this business, as tailors complain that their goods, although of a quality superior to the Continental, are too dear.

“Artificial wools, shoddies, and cotton waste continue to be imported in fair quantities, both from the United Kingdom and Germany.”

Mr. Grant reports, as regards trade with Ireland, that a certain small quantity of the superior class of linen goods made in Belfast is bought by first-class drapers, apparently through Manchester and London. This trade, he says, may continue, but the consumption is bound to be limited to the higher classes. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,537.*)

### SPAIN.

The “Gaceta de Madrid” of 15th March notifies that applications have been received from:—(1) the Biscay Electric Tramway Plant. Electricity Company for the concession of a tramway in Bilbao; (2) the San Sebastian Tramway Company for the concession of two electric tramways in

### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **SPAIN**—*continued.*

San Sebastian. One month from the date of the publication of the notice is allowed in which other proposals on more favourable terms, duly guaranteed, may be made.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened four months after the publication of the notice, at the office of the Port Works Board, Huelva, for the supply of eight electric cranes in accordance with conditions and specifications set forth in the "Gaceta." A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the material tendered for is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" also contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 22nd April, at the office of the Port Works Board, Tarragona, for the supply of a motor launch. Conditions of tender are on view at the above-named office.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 17th March contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 21st May, at the Directorate General of Public Works, Madrid, for the concession of an electric tramway in Madrid. An application for this concession has already been made by the "Estaciones y Mercados" Tramway Company, who, at the same rates, will enjoy certain preferential rights over other tenderers. The competition will turn, in the first place, on a reduction of the proposed tariff of fares and rates for goods, and if two or more identical propositions are made, a further competition will take place verbally as to any reduction tenderers may be prepared to accept of the period (60 years) of the concession.

A deposit of 1,092 pesetas (about 37*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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#### **ITALY.**

The following notes of possible openings for trade in Italy are taken from the March "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Milan:—

A glance at the following comparative figures of Italy's imports and exports of automobiles will indicate the strides being made, both in their use in that country and in their manufacture there for export:—

**Motor Cars, Parts  
and Accessories.**

*Openings for British Trade.***ITALY**—*continued.*

	Imports.		Exports.	
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
		£		£
1900 ... ..	199	48,160	6	1,449
1902 ... ..	276	85,986	30	6,814
1904 ... ..	410	164,434	127	44,502
1905* ... ..	667	259,122	287	145,840

\* Provisional figures.

During the year 1905 twenty-two companies were formed to trade in or manufacture automobiles, with a total capital of over 1,100,000*l.* A list of these companies is contained in the "Bulletin." Further projects are:—The installation of a public service of 40 automobiles for the city of Milan, the concession for the same having been granted to the "Société Italienne pour entreprise et transports automobiles." The town of Belluno is to be provided with a service by the same company, and other districts of Romagno, Venice, and Emilia are expected to follow suit. The Provincial Council of Mantua is considering the installation of an automobile service on the six railways of the Province. The Communal Council of Ivrea (Piedmont) has approved the project for a motor car service between that town and Biella. The Communal Council of Govona has taken the initiative in the formation of a syndicate between the neighbouring communes for a service for passengers and goods. The municipality of Turin is experimenting with automatic sprinklers. The Provincial Council at Caserta has granted the concession to a local company for a motor omnibus service in the district. In Sardinia the Government has subsidised a motor car service between Palan, Tempio and Sassari.

The sons of Agostino Boggio, of Cossato, have obtained a renewal for 30 years of their concession for deriving  
**Hydro Electric** from an outfall there, motive power to be  
**Plant.** utilised partly at a new woollen factory and partly at the old works. The concession of Mr. Felix Carlotto with respect to the Strona di Cossato has been similarly renewed. Mr. Giacomo Piletta, of Novara, has obtained rights from the Prefecture for water power from the Sessera and Arduccio streams (district of Coggiola). Messrs. Marcantoni and Torresi have obtained a concession from the Prefecture of Ascoli Piceno for the derivation of water power from the River Aso, to be utilised in electric lighting between Porto San Giorgio and Grottammare on the Adriatic coast.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### ITALY—continued.

Amongst other new enterprises notified in the "Bulletin" are the "Industries textiles napolitaines," with a capital of 120,000*l.*, which may be increased to 400,000*l.*, for cotton spinning and weaving mills at Naples; the "Usines de Netro" (Novara), with headquarters at Turin and a capital of 72,000*l.*, for the manufacture of cutlery and forged pieces for motor cars, railways, &c.

The "Bulletin" also draws attention to the trade in agricultural machinery and implements, which although in its infancy in Italy, is susceptible of considerable development, and recommends manufacturers of this class of machinery, who are exhibiting at Milan, to follow up their efforts in a thorough manner.

The peasant it will be difficult to convince, and the first step must be in the direction of the proprietor.

In preparing catalogues for the Italian markets, it should be borne in mind that only the simplest machines are known, and descriptions should avoid technical details and be couched in the plainest possible terms. In addition to measurements, prices, and conditions of sale, a general account should be given regarding the uses to which the machine may be put, the soil to which it is suited, its durability, and the saving which should result from its adoption.

### ROUMANIA.

With reference to the notice on p. 349 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd February respecting a call for tenders by the Roumanian Directorate-General of State Monopolies for the supply of 500,000 jute sacks for salt, 70 metres of jute cloth, and 14,000 jute bags for tobacco, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Bucharest (Mr. H. E. Browne) has forwarded a sample salt sack and a cutting of the jute cloth, which, together with a copy (in French) of the specifications and form of tender, may be examined by British manufacturers at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. Tenders will be opened on the 31st March.

### BULGARIA.

H.M. Acting Agent at Sofia (Mr. E. Scott, M.V.O.) reports that the Municipal Council of Sofia have approved the terms of a new municipal loan contracted with a financial group composed of the "Bank für Handel und Industrie" (Berlin), the "Berliner

**Cotton Machinery;  
Plant for  
Cutlery Works.**

**Agricultural  
Machinery.**

**Jute Sacks and  
Cloth.**

**Building and  
Paving Works,  
&c.**

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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Handelsgesellschaft," and the "Banque Générale de Bulgarie." The last named was formed recently, the principal partners being the "Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas" (French) and the "Pester Ungarische Commerz Bank" (Budapest). The loan, of which the amount is 35,000,000 francs (1,400,000*l.*), is issued at 81. It bears 5 per cent. interest and will be payable in fifty years.

After deducting the sums required for the conversion of the former loans, including that contracted in London, for the payment of interest on the new loan, for expropriation and various charges, the balance left for municipal improvements does not amount to more than about 6,800,000 francs (272,000*l.*).

It is proposed to divide the money as follows:—Baths and adjoining hotel, 72,000*l.*; street paving, 120,000*l.*; sheds and slaughter houses, 40,000*l.*; water pipes, 20,000*l.*; drain pipes, 12,000*l.*; repairs to canals and bridges, 8,000*l.*

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell), has forwarded a copy of Circular

**Suction Dredges.** No. 298, issued by the Isthmian Canal Commission, inviting tenders for the supply of two sea-going suction dredges. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at the office of the General Purchasing Officer, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington, D.C., until 10.30 a.m. on the 3rd April. A copy of the specification may be inspected on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Mr. Bell has also forwarded a copy of Circular No. 302, inviting tenders for miscellaneous supplies (including water hose, cotton waste, tools, wire, brushes, &c.) to the Isthmian Canal Commission.

**Water Hose,  
Cotton Waste,  
Tools, &c.** Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at the office of the General Purchasing Officer, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington, D.C., until 10.30 a.m. on the 29th March. A copy of the specifications may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., although, as in so many previous cases, the time allowed only admits of firms tendering who have arrangements with their agents which can be availed of by cable.

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**PANAMA.**

H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. Mallet, C.M.G.), reports that the construction and operation of a military cable,

**Cable Laying.** to be opened for commercial purposes, have been authorised between Key West, Guantanamo, and the Canal zone. A maximum rate of 40 c. a word is to be charged.

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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**PANAMA**—*continued*,

Mr. Mallet states further that the report of the Committee appointed to prepare plans for the permanent improvement of Colon has been approved, and the work is to be commenced at once.

**Drainage Works,  
&c.**

Streets will be widened, drainage work carried out, and a pumping station installed for sewage purposes.

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**CHILE.**

H.M. Legation at Santiago has forwarded a copy and translation of a Law authorising the expenditure of a sum of 150,000 dols. (about 10,000*l.*) on a survey of the sections of the proposed longitudinal railway between Arica and a point on the Antofagasta and Bolivia Railway, and on a survey of a railway between Antofagasta and Mejillones, and between Iquique and the frontier of Bolivia.

**Railway  
Construction.**

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**CHINA—MONGOLIA.**

The "North China Herald" reports that, during their stay at Peking, the Princes of Mongolia came to the decision that, after the Peking-Kalgan railway is completed, the Kalgan-Urga railway should be constructed and telegraph lines stretched to every important district in Mongolia, to connect it with Peking. Powers were asked from the Government to that end.

**Railway and  
Telegraph  
Construction.**

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**FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.****RUSSIA.**

With reference to the Building and Architectural Exhibition, which was to have been opened at St. Petersburg on the 3rd April,\* the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) has been informed by the Exhibition Committee that the opening has been deferred to 2nd/15th April, 1907.

**Building  
Exhibition at  
St. Petersburg:  
Postponement.**

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\* See "Board of Trade Journal," page 353, 22nd February.

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## NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION: BRITISH GOVERNMENT EXHIBIT.

An international exhibition,\* promoted by the Government of New Zealand, is to be opened at Christchurch in November next. It is understood that the High Commissioner for New Zealand, the Hon. Pember Reeves, will be glad to give any information to intending exhibitors at 13, Victoria Street, S.W. The export trade from the United Kingdom to New Zealand amounts to about 6,000,000*l.* a year, and, therefore, traders in this country may feel that to take part in this international exhibition might reasonably lead to an increase of business between the two countries.

His Majesty's Government have decided to send an exhibit, of which the Board of Trade, at the request of the Colonial Office, have agreed to undertake the preparation. Sir Charles Watson, K.C.M.G. (formerly Secretary to the Royal Commission for the St. Louis Exhibition), has been appointed as Director, and Sir Isidore Spielmann as Hon. Art Director. The Board will be further assisted by a small committee upon which a representative of the Colonial Office has been appointed.

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## APPOINTMENT OF A COMMERCIAL ATTACHÉ FOR JAPAN.

Mr. Edward T. F. Crowe, of H.M. Consular Service, has been appointed Commercial Attaché for Japan to reside at Yokohama. The appointment is to date from 1st April next.

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## BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

**Natal.**—Mr. A. D. C. Agnew, the correspondent at Durban of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, again calls attention to the importance of carefully packing goods sent out to South Africa from the United Kingdom. Although in some cases greater care is taken, there is still much need for improvement. In Natal, as well as in all the other South African colonies, large quantities of imported goods have still to be conveyed by ox-wagons, and great losses are suffered through improper packing. On this subject, Mr. Agnew sends the following extract from a letter addressed to the "Natal Advertiser" by the secretary of the Potchefstroom Chamber of Commerce:—

"British manufacturers ought to pack their goods in smaller quantities in most cases. I am perfectly aware that the cheaper the goods (the lower the quality, that is) the larger the quantities in which they are made up. But I would point out that this is a mistake; and many persons instead of importing, either leave the item out of their indents, or buy a small quantity (at a ridiculously

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\* See "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd November, 1905, p. 199.

*British Trade Abroad.*

high price) from some of the coast houses, just for the sake of having the article if it is asked for. You will readily see that this curtails business at two points; the price charged to the purchaser being high and the home merchant losing probably larger sales (in the aggregate). For packages going to the country per wagon, about 450 lbs. ought to be the maximum weight, but as many as possible should be, say, 200 lbs. That is for mixed goods. Of course, liquors and many canned goods are very conveniently put up already, and we cannot complain on that score. Most classes of soft goods could be put up in smaller cases, as well as boots, hats, saddlery, cutlery, crockery, hardware of various kinds, and ironmongery. Another point is that because of transshipment and very rough handling, cases on the average, and particularly for this part of the world, ought to be made much stronger when their contents are heavy. Crockery, cutlery, and various kinds of hardware are especial offenders in this direction, both as to outward and inward covering and packing, either boxes or parcels. . . .

“My remarks, although written from the Transvaal, will apply with equal force to all parts of South Africa where the iron horse is not yet in being. Many a time in bad weather a wagon gets stuck in a drift (ford), and there is no getting away from there and proceeding on the journey until that wagon is unloaded where it stands and loaded up again high and dry on the opposite bank of the stream. Without appliances, and miles away from any habitation, it is obviously impossible for two men and a boy to shift huge cases. What I have mentioned is not an unfrequent event—with what results to the merchandise you can easily imagine.”

**Oporto.**—In his report for 1905 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,537) H.M. Consul at Oporto (Mr. H. Grant) writes with regard to samples:—

“A gentleman here who is well conversant with the trade suggests that manufacturers in the United Kingdom should be cautioned with respect to the indiscriminate issue of samples, as some are written for with the mere object of having them copied; it is suggested that samples should be confided to respectable agents who will return them after showing them on the markets.”

**Amsterdam.**—The Acting British Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. F. A. Chambers), in his report for 1905, remarks that a visit to the Colonial Museum at Haarlem, where an extensive collection of colonial produce, fibrous goods, varieties of wood, minerals, &c., may be inspected, is not unlikely to give many a useful hint to British manufacturers and merchants.

The Commercial Intelligence Bureau, Oudebrugsteeg, Amsterdam (which is at the same time a branch establishment of the above-mentioned Colonial Museum), supplies, free of cost to

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foreigners, information necessary to the promotion of business interests. Products and manufactures of Dutch, foreign, and colonial origin are exhibited.

In Mr. Chambers' opinion a personal visit to Holland by manufacturers and traders themselves, or by a competent representative, cannot fail to be beneficial in many cases, as the opportunity is thereby gained of thoroughly studying the requirements of the market.

Price lists and catalogues should, if practicable, be in the Dutch language, and with metric or decimal weights and measures, and prices should be, preferably, in Dutch currency; but above all, adds Mr. Chambers, if such catalogues are transmitted by post they should be followed up with a visit by a competent representative or commercial traveller, who should, if possible, have a sufficient knowledge of the Dutch language. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,535.*)

**Constantinople.**—In forwarding revised lists of British and foreign firms established in Constantinople likely to do business with the United Kingdom, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. A. T. Waugh) remarks that in order that British manufacturers may compete with foreign firms they must adopt some of their competitors' methods, and he makes the following suggestions on this subject:—

1. Success depends almost entirely upon the agent; the manufacturer should select only a man of whose commercial morality, business capacity, and energy he is assured.

2. Every latitude should be given to the agent in respect to the terms of payment.

3. The agent should be encouraged to keep the manufacturer well supplied with samples, new designs and prices of competitors' goods; and the manufacturer should furnish the agent with up-to-date samples of his own goods.

4. Wherever possible, the manufacturer should sell directly to the consumer, through the local agent only.

5. Prices should be quoted c.i.f. Constantinople, and for this purpose manufacturers should themselves consider the question of freight.

6. In nearly all cases of non-payment referred to the British Consulate, the reasons given by customers have been either:—

- (a) Goods not to sample.

- (b) Goods arrived too late for season.

Mr. Waugh suggests in respect to orders, that:—

1. All orders should be taken in writing, signed by the customer, and addressed to the manufacturer by name.

2. No shipment should be effected until samples are approved by the customer.

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3. An approximate rate for shipment should be specified in the order.

A memorandum on the terms of payment usual on the Constantinople market, forwarded by Mr. Waugh, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN TRADE IN BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

The following statement, showing the quantities and values of the imports into British South Africa during the six months ended 31st December, 1905, of the principal articles of merchandise in which goods from foreign countries compete with goods from the United Kingdom or other parts of the British Empire, is extracted from the quarterly return recently issued by the South African Customs Statistical Bureau:—

Principal Articles.	From United Kingdom.	From British Colonies & Possessions.	From Foreign Countries.	Total Imports.
	Thousands of £.	Thousands of £.	Thousands of £.	Thousands of £.
Animals, living, of all kinds ... ..	29	24	64	117
Cement ... ..	59	—	44	103
Cotton manufactures ...	621	3	132	756
Drugs and chemicals ...	201	5	165	371
Earthenware and china-ware ... ..	68	—	29	97
Fodder and forage... ..	—	18	13	31
Food and drink, articles of—				
Butter and substitutes	8	120	102	230
Cheese ... ..	4	7	65	76
Corn, grain and meal—				
Beans and peas ...	1	4	8	13
Maize... ..	1	1	6	8
Wheat ... ..	—	375	80	455
Wheaten flour ...	1	160	61	222
Fats and dripping ...	1	1	3	5
Fruits (bottled or tinned) ... ..	4	3	12	19
Meats, fresh or frozen	8	340	314	662
„ tinned or otherwise preserved ...	16	17	66	99
Lard ... ..	2	1	18	21
Oatmeal... ..	12	14	3	29
Sugar, refined and sugar products ...	38	36	39	113
Vegetables, fresh and preserved ... ..	12	1	67	80
Furniture of all sorts ...	314	11	76	401
Glassware ... ..	49	—	43	92
Hardware and cutlery ...	515	2	282	799
Agricultural implements...	37	8	64	109
Lampware ... ..	18	—	20	38
Agricultural machinery ...	20	6	17	43
Mining machinery ...	292	—	147	439
Vehicles (including motors)—				
Carts and carriages ...	52	3	81	136
Bicycles and tricycles	85	—	22	107
Wax, stearine and paraffin	1	—	18	19
Wood manufactures, other than furniture ...	23	12	118	153

## TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to December, 1905, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the twelve months ended December. The corresponding figures for 1904 and 1903 are added for comparison :—

	Imports ( <i>see NOTE</i> that follows tables). Twelve Months ended December.			Exports (Domestic) ( <i>see NOTE</i> that follows tables). Twelve Months ended December.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany ... ..	300,134,000	318,206,000	336,500,000	250,732,000	261,132,000	279,272,000
Belgium* ... ..	101,689,000	108,888,000	115,410,000	79,875,000	82,960,000	87,455,000
France... ..	192,048,000	180,093,000	186,955,000	170,090,000	178,038,000	190,469,000
Switzerland ... ..	46,349,000	48,236,000	52,759,000	35,189,000	35,253,000	38,315,000
Spain*... ..	33,971,000	33,367,000	39,150,000	33,437,000	33,863,000	35,107,000
Italy ... ..	74,478,000	76,549,000	83,135,000	60,698,000	63,889,000	68,295,000
Austria-Hungary ... ..	78,213,000	85,329,000	89,912,000	88,741,000	87,028,000	90,337,000
Egypt ... ..	17,189,000	21,095,000	22,126,000	20,049,000	21,353,000	20,890,000
United States... ..	207,395,000	215,814,000	245,653,000	303,677,000	297,023,000	333,213,000
Japan ... ..	32,322,000	37,853,000	49,783,000	29,193,000	32,231,000	32,492,000
British India ... ..	54,646,000	63,662,000	66,544,000	95,392,000	104,949,000	102,650,000
Canada ... ..	49,979,000	50,381,000	53,727,000	43,595,000	38,780,000	43,332,000
United Kingdom ... ..	473,027,000	480,734,000	487,481,000	290,800,000	300,711,000	330,023,000

\* Value of *principal* articles only.

A comparison of the total figures for one month ended 31st January is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

	Imports ( <i>see NOTE</i> ). One Month ended January.			Exports (Domestic) ( <i>see NOTE</i> ). One Month ended January.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium* ... ..	9,386,000	8,286,000	10,359,000	5,264,000	6,014,000	6,465,000
France... ..	15,184,000	15,201,000	17,856,000	12,039,000	12,163,000	13,781,000
United States ... ..	17,206,000	20,488,000	22,290,000	29,175,000	25,336,000	35,089,000
United Kingdom ... ..	40,421,000	41,653,000	46,030,000	24,083,000	24,990,000	30,775,000

\* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada, and *United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of “nationalised” goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

### *Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow :—

	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (11 months)...	58,111,000	56,630,000	53,858,000	92,450,000	91,223,000	100,281,000
Portugal (8 months)...	9,017,000	9,426,000	9,436,000	4,420,000	4,654,000	4,200,000
Mexico† (9 months)...	11,281,000	12,073,000	12,627,000	12,373,000	13,957,000	16,869,000

\* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of both imports and exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June, 1903, 1904, and 1905, at 1s. 8d., 1s. 10d. and 2s. respectively; 2s. 1d. has been taken for the three first months (July to September) of the year 1905-6. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions, including figures received up to 28th February," to be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

### HANDBOOK OF CUSTOMS LAWS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a handbook of the Customs Laws of the United Kingdom, which has been prepared by Mr. N. J. Highmore, Solicitor for H.M. Customs, and published for H.M. Stationery Office by Messrs. Stevens & Sons, Ltd. The book sets forth in a convenient shape the present Customs Tariff for Great Britain and Ireland; the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876, with the enactments affecting it; the Acts having special reference to particular goods; and the Customs Laws and Tariff of the Isle of Man. Included also are notes of cases bearing on Customs matters, &c.

### NEW EUROPEAN CUSTOMS TARIFFS—BULGARIA.

Adverting to notices which have appeared in previous issues of the "Board of Trade Journal" under the above heading, the Board of Trade desire to direct attention to the issue of an *interim* edition of the new Bulgarian Tariff which has just been published by their department as a Parliamentary paper [Cd. 2,862]. The Return contains a translation of the new Tariff as modified by Conventions recently concluded by Bulgaria with the United Kingdom, Germany, France and England. Copies of it may be procured, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., at the price of 6d.

Special attention is called to the Explanatory Note prefixed to the Return.

## PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

### RUSSIA (FINLAND).

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Consul at Helsingfors, reporting a proposed increase of the duties on spirits imported into Finland. It is proposed that the duty on arrack, cognac, rum and whisky, imported in barrels, shall be levied at the rate of 2 marks 50 pennis per kilog. (11*d.* per lb.) ; other spirits in barrels, 4 marks per kilog. (1*s.* 5½*d.* per lb.). The proposed duty on all spirituous liquors imported in bottles is to be 3 marks (2*s.* 4¾*d.*) per bottle ; and the duty on drugs and perfumes containing alcohol, whether in barrels or bottles, 4 marks per kilog. (1*s.* 5½*d.* per lb.). It is understood that the proposed changes noted above will probably come into force on the 1st June next, but that they may be enforced at an earlier date.

The Consul reports further that the Finnish Senate proposes to reduce the duty on rock salt, coarse, in lumps, to 25 pennis per 100 kilogs. (1¼*d.* per cwt.).

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### SIAM.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Siamese Government have given to H.M. Government the twelve months' notice, required under the Anglo-Siamese Treaty of 1855, of their desire to proceed to a revision of the existing Siamese Customs tariff.

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## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### BRITISH INDIA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the India Office, a copy of a notification (No. 1,351-7) dated 21st February, 1906, notifying that :—

**Sugar: Additional  
Regulation  
respecting Certifi-  
cate of Origin.**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 8a, sub-section (2), and section 8b, sub-section (3), of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII. of 1894), as amended by Acts XIV. of 1899, VIII. of 1902, and XI. of 1904, the Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct that the following clause shall be added to rule 7 of the rules for the

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### BRITISH INDIA—continued.

identification of sugar, published in the notification of the Government of India in the Finance and Commerce Department, No. 4,439 S.R., dated the 14th August, 1902, as subsequently amended, namely:—

“(4) Where, in any case referred to in sub-rule (2)\*, the sugar is alleged to be the produce of a country which is a party to the Brussels Sugar Convention of 1902, a certificate granted by a duly authorised Customs officer of that country as to the origin of the sugar shall be accepted as sufficient proof of its origin.”

\* *i.e.*, in the case of sugar which has been exported from a port in any country other than the United Kingdom or in any British possession either to the United Kingdom in transit to ports in British India, or direct to any Customs port.

### DOMINION OF CANADA.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Canadian High Commissioner, a copy of a cablegram, which **Import Duty on Fancy Molasses.** has been transmitted by the Customs Department of Canada, respecting the Tariff status of fancy molasses, imported into the Dominion as follows:—

Fancy molasses or syrup which are not genuine Muscovado molasses from British West Indies are dutiable in Canada at the same rate as raw sugar when testing over 52 degrees cane sugar.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

A copy of Supplement No. 58 to the Customs Tariff Guide, dated 29th January, 1906, has been received, which **Customs Decisions.** gives Customs decisions relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Australian Commonwealth.

The following are the principal Decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Brads, glazier's, used in glazing—	
As manufactures of metals ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Cutters, belt—	
As cutlery, n.e.i. ... ..	15 %   "
Leather—skin capping "paper"—	
As leather, n.e.i. ... ..	15 %   "
*Links, repairing, for chains; and split links for chains (not jewellers)—	
As chains, n.e.i. ... ..	Free.

\* Revised decision.

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—continued.**

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Mills, grinding, for colours; if not for tile, pipe and brick-making industries—	
As machinery, n.e.i. ... ..	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>
Paints, grease (a toilet preparation), and pencils, eyebrow—	
As perfumery ... ..	20 % „
Plaits of all descriptions—	
If for use in the manufacture, that is in the building up, of hats—	
As minor articles for hats and caps ... ..	Free.
If the sole or primary object is for trimming—	
As trimmings ... ..	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
*Powder—	
Magnesium—	
As other articles ... ..	Free.
Milk—	
As milk, concentrated ... ..	1d. per lb.†
*Reflectors—	
For fixing on lamps (not electric)—	
As lamps and lampware, n.e.i.... ..	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
For fixing on wall or apart and away from the lamp ...	{ According to material.
Spindles, saw—	
As machinery, n.e.i. ... ..	12½ % <i>ad val.</i>
Sprinklers, metal rose, for garden use—	
As agricultural implements and machinery ... ..	12½ % „
Stockingette—in the piece, for making wraps for frozen meat—	
If defined for cutting off and invoiced or sold singly or by number—	
As bags and sacks ... ..	10 % „
Otherwise—	
As cotton and linen piece-goods .. ..	5 % „
Strap-punching machine—	
As machine tools ... ..	Free.
Suet, beef—	
Fresh—	
As beef ... ..	1d. per lb.
Salted—	
As meats, &c., n.e.i. ... ..	5s. per cwt.
*Swingle-trees and bars—	
One set with each reaper and binder—	
As agricultural implements, &c.—reapers and binders	Free.
One set imported with stripper or other dutiable machine of which they form part ... ..	{ Same rate of duty as machine.
Otherwise—	
As wicker, wood, &c., manufactures ... ..	20 % <i>ad val.</i>
Switch-board, marble, with ammeters, voltmeters, Watthour-meters, and synchronizing apparatus complete—	
As electrical machinery and appliances, n.e.i. ... ..	12½ % „
Yokes, neck—	
As wicker, wood, &c., manufactures ... ..	20 % „

\* Revised decision.

† Irrespective of concentration.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### NATAL

The correspondent at Durban of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew) has forwarded a copy of a notice issued by the Collector of Customs, in which it is pointed out that the contents of parcels received in Natal from abroad through the Parcels Post will be forfeited if it is found upon examination that the values entered on the labels attached to the parcels are less than the values which the importers have paid.

Section 128 of Customs Act 13 of 1899 provides that any person "who shall evade or attempt to evade the payment of Customs duties" on any goods "shall forfeit treble the duty-paid value of such goods, or the sum of 100*l.*, at the election of the Collector of Customs, and the goods shall be forfeited."

### STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The "Straits Settlements Government Gazette, Extraordinary" for 13th February, 1906, contains an Order (No. 148 of 1906), issued by the Governor in Council under the provisions of the "Coin Import and Export Ordinance, 1903," notifying the prohibition of the exportation of the Straits dollar from the Colony to any place outside the Malay Peninsula, Netherlands, East Indies, and Borneo from and after 13th February, 1906.

### BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

The "British Central Africa Gazette" of 31st January contains a notice stating that the following valuations will be placed on the under-mentioned articles for export purposes, from 1st April, 1906, and until further notice:—

Export Valuations.				
Strôpanthus	...	...	...	2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per lb.
Tin, ingot	...	...	...	100 <i>l.</i> per ton.
Copper, ingot	...	...	...	50 <i>l.</i> "
Copper ore, treated	...	...	...	25 <i>l.</i> "
„ untreated	...	...	...	10 <i>l.</i> "

### MAURITIUS.

A copy of a Proclamation (No. 2 of 1906) dated 29th January 1906, has been received from the Acting-Collector of Customs at Port Louis notifying that, in consequence of the prevalence of anthrax (charbon) at Réunion Island, the following animals, &c., are prohibited from being imported into the Colony of Mauritius from that place:—Cattle (as defined by Ordinance 39 of 1881), horses, asses, mules, and carcasses (as defined by Ordinance 39 of 1881), and also straw, hay, litter, and manure.

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### RUSSIA.

The Austro-Hungarian "Reichsgesetzblatt" for the 28th February contains the text of the new Commercial Treaty between Russia and Austria-Hungary, which was ratified on the 26th February, 1906. The following is a statement of the reductions introduced into the Russian Customs Tariff as a result of this Treaty, in so far as they have not already been contained in other Russian Treaties and embodied in the *interim* statement relating to the Russian Tariff, which has recently been published as a Parliamentary Paper [Cd. 2,857]. These reduced duties are applicable to products of the United Kingdom:—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under new Treaty.	
		Roub.	Cop.
<i>Ex 3</i>	Malt of all kinds ... ..	Poud (gross)	0 30
<i>Ex 5</i>	Artichokes, Brussels sprouts, and spinach, imported fresh or in a dried state ... ..	"	0 90
<i>Ex 57</i>	Manufactures of leather and skins—		
(1)	Boots and shoes not specially mentioned, in a finished or partly finished condition ... ..	Funt	1 50
<i>Ex 59</i>	Carpenters' and coopers' wares—		
<i>Ex (1)</i>	Shingles, plain or grooved ... ..	Poud	0 18
	<i>Note 2</i> —Wooden cases and sawdust, to be used in the exportation of eggs, under conditions laid down by the Minister of Finance...		Free.
	<i>Note 3</i> —Beech staves including the hoops belonging thereto, imported by the Austrian frontier ... ..		Free.
<i>Ex 61</i>	Wooden manufactures not specially mentioned—		
<i>Ex 3</i>	Furniture of bent beech wood, stamped or pressed, decorated with engravings made by a hot iron, fitted or not, without other preparation specified in paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of this number (61) ... ..	Poud	6 75
<i>Ex 62</i>	Plants and parts of plants, not otherwise mentioned—		
<i>Ex (3)</i>	Seeds not separately designated, husked or unhusked... ..	Poud (gross)	0 15
<i>Ex 67</i>	Precious or semi-precious stones, natural or artificial (imitating real stones), unwrought or cut in facets ... ..	Funt	4 50
<i>Ex 71 (2)</i>	Graphite, ground or washed ... ..	Poud	0 45
<i>Ex 77</i>	Glass wares—		
(1)	Wares intended to receive and preserve liquids and other merchandise, such as bottles, flasks and jars of all shapes, without ornaments or patterns, uncut and unground, with or without moulded letters, inscriptions or crests—		
<i>Ex (b)</i>	Of white, half-white, or coloured glass (coloured in the paste), without ground necks and without cut stoppers, lids, bottoms, or edges—		
	Syphons without fittings ... ..	"	2 00
	<i>Note</i> —Wine bottles of glass included under No. 77 1 (a), imported by Black Sea ports or the Sea of Azov ... ..	"	0 30

# Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

## RUSSIA—continued.

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under New Treaty.	
	Glass wares— <i>continued</i> .	Roub. Cop.	
(2)	Articles not specially mentioned, of white or half-white glass, uncut, unpolished, with or without cut bottoms, edges, necks, stoppers or lids, also with moulded or impressed crests, inscriptions or patterns, but without other embellishments—		
<i>Ex</i> (b)	Table glass, blown ... ..	Poud	4 80
(3)	Articles of white or half-white glass, polished or cut, but without other embellishment; ...	"	7 20
<i>Ad</i> (4)	<i>Note</i> .—Articles of " <i>Florett glas</i> "— Uncut, unpolished, unground, with or without cut bottoms, edges, stoppers or lids, also with moulded or impressed inscriptions, crests or patterns, but without embellishments of any other kind ...	"	10 00
	Cut, polished, or ground ... ..	"	16 50
(5)	<i>Note</i> .—Glass wares such as table utensils, dishes, epergnes, cups, bottles, jugs, glasses, lamps, lamp shades in combination with copper, alloys of copper, nickel and other metals and alloys, except gold and silver, are dutiable under No. 77.		
<i>Ex</i> (6) c	Glass combined by fusion with wire netting... ..	"	2 50
<i>Ad</i> 102	<i>Note</i> .—Peroxide of barium and hydrated oxide of barium ... ..	"	1 80
<i>Ex</i> 124	Tanning materials—		
<i>Ex</i> (1)	Tan bark ... ..	" gross	0 06
<i>Ad</i> 138	<i>Note</i> (2).—Sulphurous iron pyrites not containing more than 2 per cent. of copper ...	Free.	
<i>Ad</i> 143	<i>Note</i> .—The surtax of 10 per cent. provided for in Note (1) to No. 143, for copper sheets cut otherwise than in rectangular shape, is not applicable to sheets so cut, of other metals or alloys mentioned under this number.		
<i>Ad</i> 147	<i>Note</i> .—Zinc, in sheets, polished or not, lacquered or not ... ..	Poud	1 25
<i>Ad</i> 149	<i>Note</i> .—Forks and spoons of copper or alloys thereof, and of other metals and alloys mentioned in No. 143, except forks and spoons gilt, silvered, or combined with other precious materials, are dutiable under sections (2) and (3) of No. 149.		
<i>Ex</i> 158	Cutlery:—		
(3)	Shears for sheep shearing ... ..	"	1 80
	<i>Note</i> .—Knives with handles of common materials, ornamented only with small pieces of mother of pearl, are dutiable under section (1) of No. 158.		
160 (1)	Scythes, bills and sickles ... ..	"	1 65
<i>Ex</i> 161 (1)	Files, uncut ... ..	"	2 00
<i>Ad</i> 164	<i>Note</i> .—Capsules for bottles, of lead or alloys of lead, only containing an insignificant quantity of tin (tin plated) ... ..	"	2 10
<i>Ad</i> 178	<i>Note</i> .—Calendars in Polish are admitted duty free even if they contain lists of dates, &c., in Russian.		
(2)			

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***RUSSIA**—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under New Treaty.
<i>Ex</i> 193	Handkerchiefs ... .. <i>Note.</i> —Handkerchiefs are not subject to the surtax on hems provided for in paragraph 8 of the General Notes to Nos. 183 to 209. Handkerchiefs with a simple open-work hem of not more than half an inch wide are dutiable under No. 193.	Roub. Cop. Funt 1 80
<i>Ex</i> 202 (1)	Continuous woollen breadths for use in factories, with a circumference of more than 10 arshins (280 inches)— Cloths for presses and filters ... ..	Funt 0 20
<i>Ex</i> 212	Buttons of glass ... ..	" 0 37½
214	Jet, imitation pearls, and beads of glass, metal and other common materials— (1) Loose or threaded, arranged according to colour, size or shape, in strings, packets or skeins— ... .. <i>Note.</i> —Imitation pearls of glass, celluloid, and porcelain (called Oriental pearls), even imitating corals and garnets, are dutiable under this number (214) without regard to colour, size or shape.	Poud 9 00
<i>Ex</i> 215	Haberdashery and toilet articles of common metals, or alloys thereof, whether gilt or silvered or not, fitted with garnets ... .. <i>Note.</i> —Pendants of silvered metallic thread, silvered brass leaf, silver dust, artificial flowers, and similar customary accessories of fans, have no influence on the tariff classification.	Funt 2 70

**GERMANY—UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

The "Reichsanzeiger" for the 27th February contains the text of a

**Extension of  
Conventional  
Tariff to United  
States Goods.**

German Law authorising the Bundesrath to accord to products of the United States, until the 30th June, 1907, the conventional tariff rates contained in the new German Treaties with Belgium, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Russia, Roumania, Switzerland, and Servia; also a notification of the Bundesrath extending the said conventional rates to United States products, in accordance with the above Law, until further notice.

Products of the United States are thus placed on virtually the same footing as those of the United Kingdom, or of any other country entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment in Germany.

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### BELGIUM.

In continuation of the notice which appeared on pp. 466-9 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 8th inst., the following is a statement of the modifications introduced into the Belgian Customs Tariff as a result of the new Commercial Treaty with Austria-Hungary. These modified rates are applicable to products of the United Kingdom.

**New Austro-Belgian Commercial Treaty—  
Modifications in  
Belgian Tariff.**

Tariff No.	Articles.	Rate of Duty under new Treaty.
<i>Ex</i> 6	Oak timber, with the bark on, or not sawn ... ..	1 fr. per cub. metre
<i>Ex</i> 17	Rice, husked ... ..	Free.
<i>Ex</i> 27	Linen underclothing, with machine-made open-worked hems, without other ornament or embroidery ...	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
<i>Ex</i> 53	Brine salts (Carlsbad salts and the like); artificial chryolite; permanganate of potash; caustic lye without soap; oxide of tin ... ..	Free.
<i>Ex</i> 54	Tissues called " <i>Etreindelles</i> " made of coarse hair, for oil presses; fullod woollen tissues for the manufacture of filters to be used in the production of aniline dyes (on proof that the articles are really intended for the purpose mentioned) ... ..	"
<i>Ex</i> 62	Extracts of tanning substances ... ..	"
<i>Ex</i> 64	Woollen felts ... ..	10 % <i>ad val.</i>
	<i>Note.</i> —The following are included under this heading—Woollen felts covered with a waterproof coating and intended for the manufacture of boots; strips of woollen felt susceptible of various uses especially those for the manufacture of boots and of mats; pieces of woollen felt simply cut for saddle bottoms and linings; sheets of woollen felt simply cut out for the manufacture of hats.	
<i>Ex</i> 64	Plaits of reed, esparto grass, bark, or palm fibre ...	"

The Protocol to the Treaty fixes the following maximum duties to be levied on certain kinds of sawn oak timber, in the event of the Belgian Government deciding to increase the present rates:—

Oak beams, sawn ... 2 francs per cubic metre.

Oak railway sleepers ... 2. " " "

Other sawn oak... ... 6 " " "

A surtax of 1 franc per cubic metre may be imposed on oak timber, which has been dyed, impregnated, or chemically prepared.

### FRANCE—FRENCH ESTABLISHMENTS IN OCEANIA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a French Presidential Decree, dated the 16th February, 1906, modifying the duties leviable on certain articles imported into the

**Tariff  
Modifications.**

### Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

French Establishments in Oceania. The articles affected and the duties fixed thereon by this Decree are as follows:—

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
	Frs. cts.
Opium ... ..	100 kilogs. 500 00
Tobacco, smoking or chewing, in plugs, cakes, or in the leaf; snuff; cigars of all kinds; and cigarettes ...	30 % <i>ad valorem</i> .
Wooden vessels of below 100 tons gross measurement ...	Ton 2 00
All other vessels ... ..	Free.
Chinese mats ... ..	100 kilogs. 10 00
Window glass ... ..	Free.

In addition to the above noted alterations, the duties on a considerable number of articles enumerated in a list annexed to the Decree are increased by 20 per cent., the additional duty to remain in force until the 31st December, 1907. A list of these articles may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA (MANICA AND SOFALA).

The “Boletim Official de Moçambique” for the 3rd February contains the text of a Decree modifying Article 23 of the preliminary dispositions to the Customs Tariff of Manica and Sofala. The article in question now reads as follows:—

**Modification of Customs Regulations: Import Declarations.**  
*Article 23.*—The value to be shown in the declaration shall in no case be less than that of the goods at the place of origin or manufacture *increased by all expenses except sea-freight and marine insurance.*

§1. The value of the goods shall be proved, if the examiners so require, by the presentation of the invoice and any other documents relating to the goods.

§2. When the expenses incurred up to the port of embarkation (packing, commission, &c.) are not set out in the invoice, and these expenses cannot be proved by any other document, the value of the goods shall be increased by 5 per cent.\*

§3. [Unaltered, in substance.]

### SPAIN.

The “Gaceta de Madrid” of 16th March contains a Royal Decree notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of March was 14·30 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payment of Customs duties which are made in gold, during the second fortnight of the month, is to be 14 per cent.

\* Formerly 25 per cent.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—} BULGARIA. SERVIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of an Austro-Hungarian Ministerial Decree, dated 7th March, providing that the conventional rates of the new Austro-Hungarian Customs Tariff are to be applied to imports from Bulgaria, as similar treatment is guaranteed to imports from Austria-Hungary into Bulgaria.

The Board of Trade are also informed that a *modus vivendi* has been arranged between Austria-Hungary and Servia, on the basis of mutual most-favoured-nation treatment. It is understood that the *modus vivendi* came into force on the 19th inst.

### ROUMANIA.

According to "*Romania Economica*" for the 19th February/4th March, the Roumanian import duty on *coprah, palm kernels, nuts, and fruits used in the manufacture of oils* (No. 242 of the new Tariff\*) has been raised from 5 bani to 10 lei. per 100 kilogs. (from  $\frac{1}{4}d.$  to 4s  $0\frac{3}{4}d.$  per cwt.).

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The Board of Trade understand that, as a result of negotiations between the United States and German Governments in connection with the new Reciprocity Arrangement (referred to on next page), several important modifications have been introduced into the Customs Regulations of the United States. Full particulars have not yet been received; but the following is a summary of the principal of these modifications:—

*Consular Certification of Invoices.*—Invoices of goods for export to the United States may be sent to United States Consuls for certification *by post or messenger*, and personal attendance will not, as a rule, be required. Invoices may be certified, at the choice of the exporter, in the district in which the goods were bought or in the district where they were manufactured.

*Dutiable Value.*—United States Consuls and special Agents of the United States Treasury Department, in making inquiries as to the dutiable value of merchandise exported to the United States, are to confer with Chambers of Commerce and other trade organisations.

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\* A translation of this Tariff has recently been issued as a Parliamentary Paper. [*Cd.* 2,828, price 7d.]

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—continued.**

*Re-appraisements.*—Hearings in re-appraisement cases are to be open and in the presence of the importer or his attorneys, whenever public interest is not prejudiced thereby.

*Undervaluation.*—*Additional Duty.*—The Secretary of the Treasury has also agreed to recommend to Congress an amendment of Section 7 of the Customs Administrative Act relaxing the stringency of the provisions of that section in the matter of undervaluation, in such a way as to remit penalties when the undervaluation does not exceed 5 per cent. of the market value of the merchandise, or 10 per cent. if the undervaluation be due to *bona-fide* difference of opinion or error.

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—GERMANY.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 505 of the "Journal" for the 14th December last, reporting the denunciation of the Reciprocity arrangement of 1900 between the United States and Germany, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Proclamation by the President of the United States, dated 27th February, 1906, prolonging the reductions in the United States Customs tariff accorded to Germany under the former arrangement. The following is the text of the Proclamation :—

**New Reciprocity  
Arrangement.**

"Whereas the Government of Germany has taken action, extending, on and after March 1st, 1906, and until 30th June, 1907, or until further notice, the benefit of the German conventional Customs tariff to the products of the soil or industry of the United States, by which action in the judgment of the President reciprocal concessions are established in favour of the said products of the United States.

"Now, therefore, be it known that I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority conferred by the third section of the Tariff Act of the United States approved 24th July, 1897, do hereby suspend during the continuance in force of the said concessions by the Government of Germany the imposition and collection of the duties imposed by the first section of said Act upon the articles hereinafter specified being the products of the soil or industry of Germany; and do declare in place thereof the following rates of duty provided in the third section of said Act to be in force and effect on and after 1st March, 1906, of which the officers and citizens of the United States will take due notice, namely :

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—  
GERMANY—continued.**

“ Upon argols, or crude tartar, or wine lees, crude, five per centum *ad valorem*.

“ Upon brandies, or other spirits manufactured or distilled from grain or other materials, one dollar and seventy-five cents per proof gallon.

“ Upon still wines, and vermouth, in casks, thirty-five cents per gallon; in bottles or jugs, per case of one dozen bottles or jugs containing each not more than one quart and more than one pint, or twenty-four bottles or jugs containing each not more than one pint, one dollar and twenty-five cents per case, and any excess beyond these quantities found in such bottles or jugs shall be subject to a duty of four cents per pint or fractional part thereof, but no separate or additional duty shall be assessed upon the bottles or jugs.

“ Upon paintings in oil or water colours, pastels, pen and ink drawings, and statuary, fifteen per centum *ad valorem*.

“ In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

“ Done at the City of Washington this twenty-seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and thirtieth.

“ THEODORE ROOSEVELT.”

**BRAZIL.**

**Brazilian Budget for 1906.**—*Continued from p. 323 of the “Board of Trade Journal” for 15th February, 1906.*

(10). The Government is authorised to permit the free importation of certain articles for use in industry, &c., including those mentioned at p. 71 of the “Journal” for the 13th April, 1905, and also (among others) the following:—

(a) Machines and apparatus for use in manufactories of jerked beef and of fertilisers.

(b) Material imported for the construction of central factories, as well as for the construction and extension of railways and port works under special concession.

(c) Stamped tinplates for the manufacture of tins for butter or lard, when directly imported by the producers of these articles.

(d) Material imported by individuals or companies for the improved cultivation of coffee, cocoa, tobacco, cotton, and animal and vegetable textile fibres, and for the preparation of the same products in central factories suitably fitted up.

(e) Motors, carburettors, stoves, lamps, and other utensils using alcohol (pure, carburated, or denatured) as fuel.

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

(11) In accordance with Article 3 of the Budget Law, various kinds of machinery, apparatus, and other articles are to be subject to a reduced import duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, when imported by agricultural syndicates or directly by agriculturists, owners of breeding grounds, or Governors of States or Municipalities.

The complete text of the Budget Law (in Portuguese) may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

#### SAN SALVADOR.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the following Tariff Modifications. Salvadorian Customs Tariff by recent Presidential Decrees:—

*Tariff No. 105.*—*Sheet tin*, japanned, gilt or enamelled, smooth, or with ornamentations in relief, is to be dutiable at the rate of 10 centavos per kilog.

*Tariff No. 154.*—*Paper and cardboard for use in lithography\** are to be dutiable as paper and cardboard for printing, at the rate of 10 centavos per kilog.

#### ECUADOR.

The following is the first portion of a translation of the new Customs Tariff for Ecuador (referred to in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 22nd February), which came into force on the 1st January last.

The remainder of the translation will be published in succeeding issues of the "Journal."

*Article 1.*—All goods imported into the Republic shall be subject to the following duties:—

- (a) Import duties.
- (b) Surcharge of 100 per cent.
- (c) Storage dues and 100 per cent. surcharge.
- (d) Mobilization dues and 100 per cent. surcharge.
- (e) Wharf dues.
- (f) Consumption duties on liquors.
- (g) Special dues.
- (h) Porterage dues.
- (i) Consular dues, which shall be paid in the form, and at the time, ordered in the Customs law.

Importers will likewise be subject to the payment of interest for demurrage, and to fines and penalties which the authorities may impose.

\* These articles were formerly dutiable separately under No. 150 of the Tariff.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ECUADOR—*continued.*

*Article 2.*—For the purpose of levying import duties, merchandise is divided into 38 classes.

*Net weight* includes the actual wrapper or receptacle proper to each separate article, but not the exterior packing in which these are imported.

When a package contains articles of different classes which have to pay on gross weight, the inspecting officer will divide proportionately the weight of the package amongst the different articles.

When a package contains goods paying some on net weight and others on gross weight, the inspecting officer will apply the weight of the packing to the articles paying by gross weight according to their proportionate quantity.

*Article 3.*—The following articles form the 1st class (articles the importation of which by private persons is prohibited):—

1. Absinth or absinth liqueur.
2. Cannon balls, shells, grenades, metal cartridges for rifles and other munitions of war.
3. Beverages and alimentary products containing poisonous substances or substances hurtful to health.
4. Carbines, rifles, carronades, and other arms of war.
5. Dynamite and other similar explosive substances.
6. Labels or marks for goods which are registered in Ecuador, unless imported by the manufacturers or their duly authorised agents.
7. Matches.
8. Fuses or fulminating caps for mines.
9. Kerosine under 150 degrees test.
10. Lard with more than 50 per cent. of stearine.
11. Machinery and apparatus for coining.
12. False money of all kinds.
13. Copper and nickel money of any kind not being Ecuadorian coined, by order and for special account of the Government.
14. National silver money, unless imported for account of the Republic, and by resolution of the Council of State.

Foreign silver coins which may be imported will not be cleared for circulation or use in the country. They will be detained in the Custom House until reshipped, and a landing certificate must subsequently be produced for same.

Munitions of war and other objects included in this Article, except Nos. 3, 9 and 12, may be imported only by the Government for the service of the nation. Nos. 3, 9 and 12 may not be imported in any circumstances, and No. 13 not without the authority of a special law.

In so far as regards dynamite, the dispositions of the amending Mining Law shall be carried out. In that case, the Governor to whom the interested party applies, will grant a certificate in which the quantity of dynamite required is stated, and only on the presentation of this certificate will importation be permitted.

15. Cigarette paper.
16. Gunpowder.
17. Salt.

*Article 4.*—The following articles form the 2nd class (articles free of duty):—

1. Passengers' luggage up to 100 kilos. in first class, and 50 kilos. in second class, provided it arrives by same steamer as the passenger. By luggage is understood objects of personal use, as clothes, boots, bed, saddle, arms, or the

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ECUADOR**—*continued.*

tools suitable to the profession of the passenger, even though not previously used.

Each passenger, except women and children, may import up to half kilo. of manufactured tobacco.

Passengers in transit may deposit any package they desire in the Custom-house, and require their re-shipment or clearance whenever they see fit.

2. Effects belonging to the Diplomatic representatives accredited to Ecuador, when imported for the use and consumption of the said functionaries, up to a value not exceeding \$10,000 (1,000*l.*) in the first year, and \$2,000 (200*l.*) in each year following, and always on the understanding that the nation by whom the representative is accredited grants a like exemption, and that the representative does not carry on business as a merchant. This exemption is extended also to all the additional duties.

3. Articles imported on account of or by authorisation of the Government, for a purpose of public use or ornamentation, an order for the same being granted by the Finance Minister.

4. National products of Peru, except articles the importation of which is prohibited, when imported by the dry or land ports. Peruvian salt imported by land ports is exempted, and will pay 1 centavo per kilogramme.

5. The following articles:—Calculating frames for schools; manures; carbolic acid, unpurified; asbestos; live animals; apparatus and prepared charges for extinguishing fires; apparatus for disinfecting; ploughs and their spare parts; automobiles; commercial advertisements on paper, cards, or books; and articles not intended for sale, when in some visible part of them an advertisement is printed, engraved, or lithographed, stating they are given away by factories or business houses; glass tiles; frames; beams; columns; doors; windows; Persian blinds; and staircases of iron for house construction; school atlases; fire engines and their accessories; empty bottles, in casks, crates, or bales; when they come in other packages, they will pay the same rate as the packages; vessels, put together or in parts, with their machinery, even though brought in different ships; iron buoys; coal; cement for building purposes; crucibles; creoline; copy books; astronomical, geographical, or hydrographic charts or maps; smaller craft, boats, launches, &c., excepting canoes; railways and railway material of all kinds; astronomical and geographical globes; birds' eggs; printing machines and their accessories; fire bricks; printed books, not otherwise specified; music, printed, written, or lithographed; fruit, fresh; sewing machines; washing machines; typewriters; machinery for agriculture or industry in general, with spare parts for same and boilers; windmills; gold coin, which shall be exempt from payment of additional duty; samples of textile goods and small articles without value, and single articles of those usually sold in pairs, provided that the interested parties permit such samples, &c., to be rendered unfit for use; gold, in dust and bars; ships' masts; printing paper for newspapers; live plants; silver in bars; slates and slate pencils; roofing slates; bridges of iron or steel; lithographing stones; presses for printing lithographs; posts, iron or steel; rails; ploughshares for agriculture; tower clocks; saltpetre, crude, for manures; vaccine and serum; silicate of soda, or potash; sulphate of copper; lifebuoys; seeds of all kinds; telescopes; tiles and tubes of earthenware; type; printing and lithographic ink; fireclay; gasoline; steel tubes for hydraulic motors; metallic oxides for enamelling; lightning conductors; sulphur sublimated; water filters and spare parts; also, with special permit, articles strictly necessary for Municipalities, for lighting and other public works.

*Article 5.*—The following articles form the 3rd class and shall pay 1 centavo per kilo., gross weight.

Hops; garlic; fencing wire, barbed or not; rice; iron crowbars; stones and tiles for paving not otherwise specified; empty earthen jars and demijohns; vegetable charcoal; canoes; sweet potatoes; onions; coconuts; cattle hides, fresh or dry but not prepared; tubes of china or clay, glazed; pig-iron; clamps

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ECUADOR—continued.

for wire fencing; hops; bricks; common crockery; lumber in logs, beams, or planks, either planed, tongued, or grooved (on full cargoes weight will be taken as per ship's register, adding 50 per cent. for iron vessels and 40 per cent. for wooden vessels; in case of doubt, to be weighed at the cost of the owner of the wood); spades, shovels, picks, rakes and weed hooks, for agriculture; satined printing paper; sheets of iron ornamented for buildings; salt from Peru, imported by land; tripoli; earth for foundry work; wire netting for fences; stearine; tallow, melted or crude; cocoanut, palm, palm-kernel, or peanut oil; carbonate of soda; carbonate of potash; crude cotton seed oil; fig oil; oxide of iron; rosin.

*Article 6.*—The following articles form the 4th class, and shall pay 2 centavos per kilog., gross weight.

Sulphuric acid; bran; oats; mineral waters, natural or artificial, gaseous or not, if not specially enumerated; anchors; gas burners; mechanical pumps for water; animal charcoal; lime for masonry; iron or lead piping, excepting that specified in Article 4; cardboard for binding, tarred and other kinds, not otherwise specified; carts, wagons, and wheelbarrows, and wheels for the same; barley; nails, of any metal, one or more inches long; carbolinum; staves for barrels, not worked; iron or steel in bars, sheets, hoops, flat, half round, angle or T-shaped; tarred felt for vessels; machine grease; propellers for steamers; incubators; fresh vegetables; pure malt; dye woods or barks; unpolished marble; machetes (cutlasses), 18 and more inches long in the blade; Indian corn; pulse (*menestras*) of all kinds; paraffin; marble dust; caustic potash; lead, in bars, ingots, sheets and scrap lead; brown paper for packing; paper for lining ships, and unprinted wood paper; fodder; potatoes; gas retorts of clay and doors for same; caustic soda; wheat; apparatus and materials for electric lights and other electric apparatus except chandeliers; Alvarobo beans (locust beans); sheet glass, of more than one metre square; sheet glass from 1cm. thick; glass, convex and concave; ice boxes; axles of iron or steel for wagons, carts, and wheelbarrows; olein; refined tallow.

(To be continued.)

### JAPAN.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 409 of the "Journal" for the 30th November last, on the subject of the abolition of the Japanese additional Customs and consumption duties (war taxes) imposed by the "Extraordinary Special Taxes Law,"\* the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that Articles I. and XXVII. of the Law in question have been cancelled. The effect of this cancellation is to maintain in force for an indefinite period the additional duties, which would otherwise have lapsed on 31st December next.

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\* See the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 23rd and 30th March, 6th April, and 18th May, 1905.

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The Board of Trade have issued circular instructions to their Surveyors revising the procedure to be observed in all cases in which steel tests are witnessed by them. Copies of the circular will be supplied to steel makers and other persons interested. The revised instructions will come into force on the 1st May.

Revised circular instructions have also been issued to Surveyors by the Board with regard to surveys for load line certificates.

#### Survey of Steel Tests.

#### Surveys for Load Line.

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### GERMAN NEW GUINEA.

H.M. Ambassador at Berlin (Right Hon. Sir F. C. Lascelles, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.), reports that a decree was issued by the Governor of German New Guinea on the 15th December last, by which the harbour of Kieta, on the East Coast of the Island of Bougainville, is opened to foreign trade, in so far as it proceeds from the British Solomon Islands.

#### Opening of Kieta Harbour to Trade from the Solomon Islands.

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### PORTUGAL.

H.M. Consul at Oporto (Mr. H. Grant) reports that a decision was very recently given in the Commercial Court at Oporto which may prove of considerable interest to British ship owners. A British steamer was chartered in New York to convey a cargo of maize to Oporto, the charter-party and bill of lading containing the usual clause as to payment of freight on delivery of cargo.

#### Lawsuit at Oporto as to Payment of Freight on Delivery of Cargo.

Owing to the fact that some of the grain arrived damaged, the damage being attributed by the receivers to one cause and by the ship owners to another, the former refused to pay any freight at all until the Court had decided what amount of compensation was due to them in respect to the damaged grain. The ship owners sued for the freight; but the Judge of the Commercial Tribunal of Oporto decided that, the charter-party having been entered into between the ship owners and the shippers of the goods, the receivers were not parties to that contract, and that thus no freight at all could be demanded of them. An appeal lies against this judgment, and due notice has been given. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,537.*)

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*Shipping and Transport.*


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**COLOMBIA.**

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Bogotá (Mr. S. S. Dickson) reports that a further contract has been signed between the Government and the Colombian Northern Railway Company for the extension of the line, which now connects Bogotá and the town of Zipaquirá from the latter terminus to the town of Chiquinquirá, a distance of 105 kiloms. (about 65 miles).

**Railway  
Extension:  
Zipaquirá to  
Chiquinquirá.**

**JAPAN.**

The "Japan Herald" reports that owing to the accumulation of orders at the Kawasaki shipbuilding yard it has been decided to carry out extensions of the works and dockyard on a large scale. It is now proposed to establish large branch works in the neighbourhood of the Hyogo Canal, and to construct at the dockyard a berth capable of receiving a vessel of 15,000 tons. For the purpose of the contemplated extension, the capital of the Company will be increased.

**Dockyard  
Extension near  
Kobe.**

**MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

A formal investigation was held in the Town Hall, Preston, on the 7th, 8th and 9th March, into the circumstances attending the explosion of a boiler on the 28th September last at the Gas Works, Longridge, Preston. The Commissioners blamed the Longridge Gas Company for negligence as regards the inspection and management of the boiler, and ordered them to pay 50*l.* towards the costs of the investigation.

**Enquiry under  
the Boiler  
Explosions Act.**

**CANADA.**

According to the "Montreal Gazette," a preliminary report, issued by the Geological Survey of Canada, shows that the mineral production of the Dominion during the year 1905 was valued at 63,574,707 *dols.*, as compared with 60,073,987 *dols.* in 1904. As an indication of the enormous increase in the mineral industry of Canada, it may be stated that the production in 1896 was 22,584,513 *dols.*, and in 1886, 10,221,255 *dols.*

**Mineral  
Production.**

The following is a summary statement of some of the chief items in last year's production, to which figures for 1904 have been added for purposes of comparison:—

*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

	1904.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Dollars.		Dollars.
Coal... .. Tons*	7,509,860	14,599,090	Not stated	17,658,615
Gold... ..	—	16,400,000	—	14,486,833
Nickel... .. Lbs.	10,547,883	4,219,153	18,876,315	7,550,526
Copper... ..	42,970,594	5,510,119	47,696,502	7,420,451
Silver... .. Ozs.	3,718,668	2,127,859	Not stated	3,605,957
Lead... .. Lbs.	38,000,000	1,637,420	55,961,000	2,634,034
Asbestos... .. Tons*	35,635	1,167,238	50,670	1,486,359
Pig-iron from Canadian ore... .. Tons*	68,297	901,880	70,554	1,047,860
Iron ore (export)... .. *	163,828	401,738	116,779	125,119

\* Tons of 2,000 lbs.

**RUSSIA.**

The following figures of the gold production in 1905 of the various districts of the Ural Province and Orenburg Government, compared with the preceding year, are taken from the "Nachrichten für Handel":—

	1904.	1905.
	Pounds.	Pounds.
North Ekaterinburg... ..	74	67
South " " " " " " " " " "	72	61
West " " " " " " " " " "	11	20
South Werchoturje... ..	20	29
Perm " " " " " " " " " "	2	1
Miaz (Orenburg)... ..	200	196
Werchne " " " " " " " " " "	52	43

1 Poud = 40 funts = 526.645 ozs. troy.

**BELGIUM.**

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels), reports that a Congress of the International Association for the Testing of Materials will be held at the Palais des Académies, Brussels, from the 3rd to the 8th September next. The Congress will deal especially with metals, cement and various materials.

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 17th March, 1906, were as follows:—

Wheat	...	...	...	28s.	5d.
Barley	...	...	...	24s.	8d.
Oats	...	...	...	18s.	10d.

For further particulars see p. 576.

A statement is published on p. 577, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 17th March, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—VICTORIA.

The Canadian Commercial Agent at Melbourne (Mr. D. H. Ross) reports that, with a view of increasing the export of horses to India, the State Government of Victoria has made a monetary grant for improving the breed of horses. The money will be expended by importing a number of purebred Welsh pony stallions and brood mares in order to form the nucleus of a pedigree stud for this breed. It is proposed to lease some of these ponies to persons in various districts throughout the State, on the recommendation of agricultural societies, on condition that their services will be made available at a moderate fee. It has been decided for the present year to restrict the expenditure of the grant to Welsh ponies on account of the fact that there is urgent need of introducing new blood of this strain into Victoria.

### GERMANY.

According to statistics published in the "Reichsanzeiger," the quantity of raw sugar produced in Germany during the period from 1st September, 1905, to 28th February last, being the first six months of the 1905-6 sugar campaign, was 2,068,211 metric tons, as compared with 1,333,279 metric tons during the corresponding months of 1904-5. The quantity of refined sugar produced increased from 786,043 metric tons during the six months September, 1904, to February, 1905, to 903,019 metric tons during the six months September, 1905, to February, 1906.

The total quantity of beets used during the first half of the present campaign was 15,726,425 metric tons, as compared with 10,071,211 metric tons during the corresponding months of 1904-5.

The total output of sugar (raw and refined) during the period

*Agriculture.*

September, 1905, to February, 1906, expressed in terms of raw sugar, was 2,295,349 metric tons, as compared with 1,510,461 metric tons in the corresponding months of 1904-5.

**SPAIN.**

H.M. Commercial Attaché at Madrid (Mr. S. P. Cockerell) reports that a company has been formed in Jerez under the style of the Sociedad Algodonera, whose object is to encourage the cultivation of cotton in Andalusia, by providing seed and ensuring the sale of the crop, which will be transformed into a marketable form.

**ROUMANIA.**

The following statistics of the wine production of Roumania are taken from the "Curierul Financiar" (Bucharest):—

—							Area.	Production.
							Hectares.	Hectolitres.
1901	..	...	...	...	...	...	134,500	891,240
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	142,714	1,041,190
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	103,980	835,663
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	89,890	1,759,668

Hectare = 2.47 acres.

Hectolitre = 22 Imperial gallons.

**MISCELLANEOUS.****UNITED KINGDOM.**

According to a report published in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"\* of the 16th March, based on 8,410 returns, viz., 4,076 from employers and their associations, 3,869 from trade unions, 423 from local correspondents, and 42 from other sources, employment in February continued to improve generally. In the textile, engineering, and iron and steel trades it was very good. Shipbuilding improved, and the building trades showed a slight seasonal improvement in certain branches, but on the whole remained dull. The changes in rates of wages reported continued to show a rise, especially in the mining and metal trades.

As compared with a year ago, nearly all the principal industries showed some improvement, with the exception of the building trades, in which employment was much the same as in February last year.

In the 271 Trade Unions, with a net membership of 586,956, making returns, 26,064 (or 4.4 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of February, 1906, as compared with 4.7 per cent. at the end of January, 1906, and 6.8 at the end of February, 1905.

\* For list of principal contents of the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" see p. 578.

*Miscellaneous.***UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scottish, and Irish Coasts during the month and two months ended 28th February, 1906, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1905 :—

	Month of February.				Two Months ended 28th February.			
	1906.		1905.		1906.		1905.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<b>England and Wales—</b>	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
Fish, excluding shell fish ... ..	588,145	545,224	530,009	493,447	1,192,674	1,074,136	1,007,012	945,840
Shell fish ... ..	—	22,561	—	18,995	—	44,386	—	38,084
Total Value ...	—	567,785	—	512,442	—	1,118,522	—	983,924
<b>Scotland—</b>								
Fish, excluding shell fish ... ..	380,625	177,728	436,274	162,661	662,000	333,112	716,602	300,063
Shell fish ... ..	—	3,969	—	3,829	—	9,500	—	8,060
Total Value ...	—	181,697	—	166,490	—	342,622	—	308,123
<b>Ireland—</b>								
Fish, excluding shell fish ... ..	12,437	9,659	15,884	11,485	28,835	20,024	33,952	21,420
Shell fish ... ..	—	852	—	748	—	1,783	—	1,383
Total Value ...	—	10,511	—	12,233	—	21,807	—	22,803

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the annual returns.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 15th March, 1906, was 84,940 (including 185 bales British West Indian and 44 bales British West African), and the number imported during the eleven weeks ended the 15th March was 1,209,346 (including 1,159 bales British West Indian and 267 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 15th March, 1906, 7,107 bales, and for the eleven weeks, 105,446.

For further details see p. 576.

**BRITISH INDIA.**

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the first number of the "Indian Trade Journal," the organ of the Commercial Intelligence Department of India, edited by the head of the Department and to be published weekly at Calcutta, price 4 annas.

The Indian crop reports, hitherto issued in leaflet form, will appear in the Journal, as also will such official reports on special

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*Miscellaneous.*

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trade markets as have hitherto been published in the official gazettes. In order to afford proprietors of **Trade Marks** known in the Indian markets a means of publicly asserting their claim to exclusive user, notices of such claim—illustrated by a copy of the mark concerned—may be given in the Journal. Similarly, specifications of patents registered with the Government of India may be published.

The Journal will also bring together information about Customs Regulations, proceedings of Agricultural and Forestry Departments, Factory Legislation, Ports, Docks, &c., openings for Indian Enterprise, Economic Chemistry, &c., &c.

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**RUSSIA.**

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) reports, on the authority of the Russian press, that the return influx of deposits into the State savings banks is assuming larger and larger dimensions. For the first week of January (Russian style) the excess of deposits over withdrawals amounted to 300,000 roubles only, while in the last week it amounted to 22,537,000 roubles. Altogether, for January, the excess amounted to 38,768,000 roubles, whereas for January, 1905, it stood at a little less than 8,000,000. The influx of deposits to the private banks at Moscow is increasing from day to day.

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**SPAIN.**

The Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Madrid (Mr. S. P. Cockerell) reports that a trust has been formed of the manufacturers of plain glass in Spain. It is composed of nine companies, situated as follows:—

2 in Bilbao, of which 1 will be closed.

2 in Gijon, of which 1 will be closed.

1 in San Sebastian.

2 in Reinosa, of which 1 will be closed.

1 in Mataporquera, which will be closed.

1 in Seville, which will be closed as regards plain glass.

The Seville factory will continue to manufacture undulated (*ondulado*) glass for roofing and stamped (*timbrado*) glass.

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**CHINA—MANCHURIA.**

The "North China Herald" reports, with reference to the opening to trade of Manchuria, that Mukden, Tsitsihar,

**Opening to Trade.** and Harbin are to be open first, and the necessary regulations are under discussion.

The other designated places will be gradually opened within the next three years.

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## STATISTICAL TABLES.

### Cotton Returns.

**Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 11 Weeks ended 15th March, 1906 :—**

	Week ended 15th March, 1906.	11 Weeks ended 15th March, 1906.	Week ended 15th March, 1906.	11 Weeks ended 15th March, 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	77,390	905,257	3,848	49,028
Brazilian ... ..	—	81,066	500	4,190
East Indian ... ..	719	38,376	466	12,337
Egyptian ... ..	6,242	169,397	2,284	38,432
Miscellaneous ... ..	599*	14,650†	9	1,459
Total ... ..	84,940	1,209,345	7,107	105,416

\* Including 185 bales British West Indian and 44 bales British West African.

† " 1,159 " " 267 " " "

### Corn Prices.

**Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 17th March, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.**

			Average Price.					
			Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
			s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 17th March, 1906	...	...	28	5	24	8	18	10
Corresponding week in—								
1899	...	...	25	4	26	8	17	0
1900	...	...	25	11	25	0	17	1
1901	...	...	25	8	24	11	17	9
1902	...	...	27	1	26	4	20	6
1903	...	...	25	1	22	9	16	10
1904	...	...	28	6	22	9	16	7
1905	...	...	30	10	24	11	16	10

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

## Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 1<sup>st</sup> March, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 17th Mar., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	11,391	11,869
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	2,820	5,938
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	608	325
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	91,334	115,279
Mutton ... ..	"	38,059	80,972
Pork ... ..	"	7,418	13,914
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	147,904	98,223
Beef ... ..	"	3,958	2,971
Hams ... ..	"	12,061	18,143
Pork ... ..	"	5,090	4,349
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ... ..	"	14,590	15,801
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting... ..	"	8,103	8,109
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	78,423	59,067
Margarine ... ..	"	22,221	20,194
Cheese ... ..	"	35,589	31,804
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	—	—
" cream ... ..	"	64	70
" condensed ... ..	"	16,329	18,916
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	49	56
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hundr.	335,482	271,125
Poultry ... ..	Value £	18,983	16,749
Game ... ..	"	3,248	450
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	19,354	7,002
Lard ... ..	"	60,395	47,645
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,562,100	2,174,200
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	255,100	212,400
Barley ... ..	"	279,101	345,000
Oats ... ..	"	418,400	188,800
Peas ... ..	"	41,220	53,720
Beans ... ..	"	2,970	51,290
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	1,249,500	811,800
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	27,709	57,790
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	10	13
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	85,054	46,187
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	148	268
Lemons ... ..	"	11,115	13,453
Oranges ... ..	"	205,413	239,641
Pears ... ..	"	—	206
Plums ... ..	"	—	94
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	1,259	2,308
Hay... ..	Tons.	2,191	1,525
Straw ... ..	"	1,196	2,885
Moss Litter ... ..	"	1,533	1,616
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	4,430	896
Locust Beans ... ..	"	36,880	17,807
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	110,912	60,169
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	12,413	14,474
Tomatoes ... ..	"	18,814	20,083
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	10,670	10,991
Vegetable, dried ... ..	Cwts.	2,480	516
Preserved by canning... ..	"	5,662	2,820

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 2d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"\* is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which will appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Trade Unions 1902-1904; Report of the Royal Commission on Trade Disputes and Trade Combinations; Report of Departmental Committee on Vagrancy; Seasonal Fluctuations in the Clothing Trades; and Relief of the Unemployed.

### FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

#### No. 3,536. Finances of the United States, 1905.

Increase of revenue amounting to 2,500,000*l.* for year ended 30th June. 1905, but deficit in the Budget of 4,500,000*l.*

Suggested re-arrangement of Customs districts, necessitated by increasing cost of collecting the duties.

Notes on the currency question; proposed remedies for inelasticity.

Tables showing heads of revenue and expenditure.

Account of the financial system of the United States.

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\* It can be purchased through any newsagent, price, 1d.

*Government Publications.***No. 3,537. Trade of Oporto, 1905.**

Increased importation of cotton and coal, due to development of manufactures.

Growing demand for motor cars.

Hints on trade in textiles.

Government Committee of Enquiry on the situation in the Douro; suggested legislation defining "Port."

**COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.**

A report from the following British Colony has been issued by the Colonial Office since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal," viz. :—

**No. 481. Ceylon.****OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.**

*Navy. Victualling Yard Manufacturing Accounts. Annual Accounts of the Cost of Manufacturing Provisions, Victualling Stores, and Seamen's Clothing (Hair Beds) at H.M. Home Victualling Yards, and Malta Yard, for the year 1904-5, with the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. 67. Price 3d.*

**LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.**

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since first January, 1906, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
<b>EUROPE—</b>					
<b>Belgium :</b>					
3532	Antwerp, Shipping and Navigation ... .. 1905	7d.	3524	Netherlands Indies— Finances ... .. 1905-6	1d.
<b>Denmark :</b>			<b>Portugal :</b>		
3525	Denmark (Supplementary) ... .. 1904	1d.	3537	Oporto ... .. 1905	1d.
<b>France :</b>			<b>Servia :</b>		
3528	Indo-China ... .. 1903-4	7d.	3529	Servia ... .. 1904	1½d.
3534	Marseilles ... .. 1905	1d.	<b>Turkey :</b>		
644	<i>French Octroi System</i> ... ..	1½d.	3533	Constantinople ... .. 1905	2d.
<b>German Empire :</b>			<b>AMERICA, NORTH—</b>		
3526	Bavaria... .. 1904 and part of 1905	1d.	<b>Mexico :</b>		
3523	German Trade with India... ..	1d.	3531	Mexican Budget ... .. 1905-6	½d.
645	<i>Agriculture in Germany</i> ... ..	1½d.	<b>United States of America :</b>		
<b>Italy :</b>			3536	Finances ... .. 1904-5	1½d.
3530	South Italy ... .. 1905	1½d.	643	<i>Coal Industry of the United States in 1904</i> ... ..	3d.
<b>Netherlands and Colonies :</b>			<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>		
3533	Amsterdam ... .. 1905	2½d.	<b>Brazil :</b>		
3527	Netherlands Finances 1904-5 to 1905-6	1½d.	3521	Santos ... .. 1902-4	2d.
			<b>WEST INDIES—</b>		
			3522	Trinidad (Supplementary) 1904	2d.

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, also the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

**Transvaal and Orange River Colony.**—A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, on the lines of the agency established at the same address by the Government of Cape Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Superintendent in charge of the Office deals with, and supplies free, information in regard to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c.

*March, 1906.*

## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes:—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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# THE Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. LII.]

March 29, 1906.

[No. 487

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 628.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where the following samples are at present on view, among other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal."	
	Date.	Page.
German woollen cloths sold in Alexandria	8th March, 1906	476
Evaporated bananas from the Seychelles Islands ... ..	15th Feb., 1906	333
Textiles sold in Zanzibar ... ..	25th Jan., 1906	175
" " Beira ... ..	" 1906	175
Leather, coffee and asphalt from the North-Western District of Argentina ...	18th Jan., 1906	133
Pyrophyllite and shale from Newfoundland	11th Jan., 1906	81
Iron ore from various places alluded to in "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" issued by the Board of Trade ... ..	15th June, 1905	521

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Cape of Good Hope.
Dominion of Canada.	Transvaal and Orange
Queensland.	River Colony.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 629.

## OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

### BRITISH INDIA.

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

**Railway  
Material.**

1. Springs, spiral, &c.
2. Springs, laminated.
3. Wheels and axles for railway wagons.
4. Wrought-iron buffers for wagons.
5. Rails and fishplates.

The conditions of contract may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 3rd April, after which time no tender will be received.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, viz.:—Expanded brass, mild steel firehole shield plates, lamps and lamp fittings, reversible cast steel crossings, water cranes, bolts, nuts, rivets, coach screws, &c.; lamp glasses, &c.; linoleum floor cloth, Portland cement, fencing materials. Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the Specification, which payment will not be returned. Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Expanded Brass," or as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 5th April, 1906. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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### CANADA.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Offices, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A Liverpool firm are desirous of appointing a good agent or broker in Montreal for the sale of hemp, canary, millet and other seeds.

A Liverpool firm desire to get into communication with Canadian houses wishing to place any of the following goods in the United Kingdom: ores, matte, lead, tallow, grease, flour, and corn.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **CANADA**—*continued.*

**Canadian Enquiry.**—A company in the Province of Quebec producing graphite of high grade and suitable for all purposes, wish to get into communication with English buyers.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

**Home Enquiries.**—A firm manufacturing anti-corrosive compositions, paints, varnishes, oils, greases, pitch and tar ask to be placed in communication with Canadian buyers of these goods.

A company manufacturing wire ropes would like to get a share of Canadian trade.

A London firm desire to purchase quantities of dowels and invite quotations from Canadian manufacturers in a position to fill orders.

A company growing seeds of various kinds wish to get into communication with seed importers in Western Canada.

**Note.**—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### **CEYLON.**

<p><b>Cast Steel, Hardware, Machinery, Apparel, Cottons, &amp;c., &amp;c.</b></p>	<p>Attention is called to the article on p. 592, referring to the progress made by foreign countries in the import trade of Ceylon as regards cast steel, hardware, machinery, made-up apparel, and cotton piece goods; also in fancy articles, lamps, haberdashery, dyed goods, musical instruments, toilet soap, &amp;c.</p>
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### **EGYPT.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from Lieut.-Col. Western, R.E., C.M.G., **Drugs, &c.; Lathes.** London Agent for the Egyptian War Office, a notification to the effect that tenders will be received up to the 1st May for the supply of drugs and materials to the Medical Corps of the Egyptian Army for the year ending 31st December, 1907; also tenders will be received up to the 14th April for the supply of lathes to the Egyptian War Department.

Copies of the specifications may be obtained from Lieut.-Col. Western's Offices, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **EGYPT**—*continued.*

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that the Municipality of Alexandria are about to erect an installation for the destruction of refuse. It is proposed to establish either one destructor, capable of burning 200 tons of refuse per day, or two destructors with a capacity of from 80 to 120 tons each. No public call for tenders will be made; persons interested should therefore communicate with the Municipality of Alexandria, enclosing tenders and plans.

**Refuse  
Destructor.**

### **SWEDEN.**

H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor) reports that tenders are invited for the supply, to the Swedish State Railways, of rolled steel joists ("Flusseisen" quality) of two kinds, I and U, for bridge-building and for waggons. Sealed tenders, marked respectively "Anbud a balkar for brobygggnader" and "Anbud a balkar for vagntillverkning," should be addressed to "Kungl. Jernvagsstyrelsens Registrator, Stockholm," where they will be received up to noon on the 17th April next.

Further particulars (in Swedish), together with notices regarding the manufacture, testing and delivery of the joists, forwarded by H.M. Consul, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

**Rolled Steel  
Joists.**

### **NORWAY.**

A cablegram has been received from the Acting British Consul-General at Christiania (Mr. E. F. Gray), notifying that tenders are invited by the Norwegian Main Railway for the supply of 1,000 tons of crown patent fuel, 1,000 to 2,000 tons of best large Shireoaks or Kiveton Park coal, and 4,000 to 5,000 tons of best Lambton coals. Tenders must be lodged in Christiania by noon on the 6th April. Particulars coming by post will be available at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**Coal and  
Patent Fuel.**

The Acting British Consul-General has also forwarded a notification to the effect that tenders will be received in Christiania, not later than 3 p.m. on the 6th April next, by the Norwegian State Railway authorities for the supply of the following telegraph materials:—

**Telegraph  
Materials.**

- 40,000 kilos of galvanised iron wire of 4 mm. diameter.
- 6,000 " " " 3 mm. "
- 4,100 large insulators.
- 8,400 small "
- 450 kilos of hackled hemp ("heglet hamp").

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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The Acting Consul-General encloses copies (in Norwegian) of specifications, conditions, drawings (2), &c., which may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. Copies of these documents may be obtained at a cost of fifty ore (about 7*d.*) per drawing required, from "Statsbanernes Hovedkasserer, No. 1, Jernbanetorvet, Christiania."

NOTE—Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers. In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

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**DENMARK.**

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 22nd March contains notices inviting tenders for harbour works, &c., at the  
**Harbour Works.** following towns:—

1. Rönne.—Rebuilding the southern mole of Rönne Harbour and carrying out certain dredging works. Tenders must be sent in to the office of the Burgomaster (Rönne Borgmesterkontor) by midday on 4th April. Drawings and conditions may be seen on application to the Rönne Harbour Office (Rönne Havnekontor), or obtained on payment of 50 kroner (2*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*), which is refunded if they are returned undamaged.

2. Nörre Sundby.—Harbour works. Tenders must be sent in to the Chamberlain's Office (Kaemnerkontor) Nörre Sundby by 15th April. Drawings and conditions may be obtained from the office named or from Ingeniör J. Andersen, Frederiksberg Allee, 3 die Sal, Copenhagen, on payment of 20 kroner (1*l.* 2*s.*), which is refunded if they are returned at the same time as tenders are sent in.

3. Randers.—Regularising and deepening the channel to Randers to a depth of 18 feet with about 210,000 cubic fathoms of earth works and the necessary damming works. Tenders must be sent in to the office of the Burgomaster (Borgmesterkontor), Randers, by 6 p.m. on 2nd May. Conditions may be obtained from the office of the Harbour Engineer (Havneingeniörens Kontor), Randers, where plans may be inspected. Tenders will be opened at 10 a.m. on 3rd May; persons tendering must be present.

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**NETHERLANDS.**

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) forwards the following particulars of contracts for coal in the Netherlands:—

**Coal.**

1. On the 30th March, the Superintendent of the Gasworks at Dordrecht will receive tenders for the supply

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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and delivery of about 7,000 tons of gas coal. Particulars of the contract are obtainable at the offices of the gasworks.

2. On the 5th April next, the Director of Naval Establishments at Hellevoetsluis will receive tenders for the delivery of about 4,000 tons of English coal (East Coast). The coal must be from one of the following mines, viz.:—South Yorkshire, Edmunds or Mitchell; Sunderland Lambton West Hartley; Davison's West Hartley; Hastings' Hartley; Broomhill West Hartley; Wombwell Main; Wilson's Glencraig, Whitehall. The coal must not contain more than 15 per cent. of small coal. It is to be delivered in quantities of from 600 to 800 tons during 1906 and 1907.

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**BELGIUM.**

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Sir E. C. Hertslet) reports that the municipal authorities of that city invite  
**Briquettes.** tenders for the supply, in one lot, of 6,000 tons of briquettes. A deposit of 5,000 francs (200*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The specification ("Cahier des Charges, No. 1,128") relating to the contract may be obtained at the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the "Collège des Bourgmestre et Echevins de la ville d'Anvers," and should reach there not later than the 9th April.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" contains a notice issued by the "Société Nationale des Chemins de  
**Railway Plant.** Fer Vicinaux," inviting tenders, which will be opened on the 18th April, for the construction of the Vollezele to Ninove section of the local railway from Hal to Ninove. The estimated cost of the work is 90,000 francs (3,600*l.*), and a deposit of 9,000 francs (360*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, should be addressed to the General Manager of the Company, at 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels, where specifications, plans, &c., may be inspected. A copy of the specifications may be obtained on payment of 1 franc from M. Dartevelle, rue de Turquie, No. 18, Saint Gilles, Brussels.

The "Moniteur" also notifies that tenders are invited up to the 12th May, at the Bourse, Brussels, for the construction of the section from S. Cécile to the French frontier, of the railway from Bertrix to the frontier *via* Muno. Estimated cost, 3,500,000 fr. (140,000*l.*); deposit, 190,000 fr. (7,600*l.*) Specifications ("cahier des charges," special No. 27) may be obtained at the Bourse, price 4 fr. 70 cts.

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## *Openings for British Trade.*

### PORTUGAL.

The "Diario do Governo" of the 21st March, contains a Royal Decree, approving a contract entered into between the municipal authorities of Angra do Heroismo and Señor Vital Betencourt Vasconcellos e Lemos, for the lighting of that town by means of electricity.

The same issue of the "Diario" contains a report as to the proposed railways in the island of S. Thomé. Three lines are proposed of a total length of 40 kilometres and of a total estimated cost of 680,000 milreis.

### SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 23rd March contains copy of an Order authorising the Granada Electric Tramways Company to substitute electric, for animal, traction on the tramway between the Plaza Nueva and the Alhambra, Granada.

### ITALY.

H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey) forwards copies of three notices issued by the Italian (Royal) Arms Factory at Brescia inviting tenders for the supply of (1) iron in rods, &c., to the estimated value of 13,008 lire (about 520*l.*); (2) steel for bayonets and parts of swords, to the estimated value of 3,710 lire (about 148*l.*); and (3) brass in wire and sheets, to the estimated value of 2,475 lire (about 99*l.*). Tenders for (1) and (2) will be received up to the 7th April, and for (3) to the 6th April. They should be addressed to "Direzione d'Artiglieria della Fabbrica d'Armi in Brescia, Italy."

H.M. Consul adds that, although but little time is given for sending in tenders for the said contracts, it may interest British iron and steel manufacturers to know that this factory is open to receive tenders from firms other than Italian.

H.M. Consul at Milan also reports an opening in his district for Canadian fruit (in tins), fish, potatoes, hides and timber.

The "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Milan reports that the Director-General of Railways has prepared a series of measures with a view to furthering the development by the Government of the Italian railways. (See also "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st February, p. 206).

## *Openings for British Trade.*

### **ITALY**—*continued.*

The measures prepared are varied in character. Some aim at obtaining, in a quick and easy manner, expropriations for urgent extensions, improvements or repairs on railway stations or lines; others aim at safeguarding more effectively the interests of the Treasury, in respect to the supplying of rolling stock, and obtaining supplies more rapidly. If suitable conditions for price and delivery cannot be obtained in national competition, the Director-General of Railways may institute an international competition or private negotiation with foreign houses. Italian firms will also be invited to these international competitions, and given the preference when their offers do not exceed foreign offers after 5 per cent. has been added to the latter, together with Customs expenses and cost of transport to the place of delivery. This 5 per cent. may be increased to 8 per cent., according to the condition of the market, urgency of supply, and nature of the work.

It is stated that on this basis tenders will shortly be invited for railway material to the value of 8,000,000*l.*

The "Bulletin" also reports that a project for an electric tramway between Leghorn, Pisa, and S. Giuliano has been presented to the authorities concerned, by Commander Audisio, of Florence, in order to obtain the concession and the necessary financial aid; and further that Messrs. Bernadelli, Capretti, and Graziotti have put forward a request for the construction of an electric railway from Brescia by Nava to the Austrian frontier, power being obtained from the Caffaro river. At the same time the Rezzato-Vobarno-Caffaro Railway Co, have been voted a grant for the extension of their line.

**Electric Tramway  
and  
Railway Plant.**

### **AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.**

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that the Municipality of Fiume are about to erect a hydro-electric generating station at a cost of 2,200,000 crowns (about 92,000*l.*).

**Hydro-electric  
Plant.**

### **GREECE.**

According to a report by the Belgian Legation in Athens there is at present great activity in the building industry in Greece, and, in consequence, a keen demand for iron girders. The trade statistics of Greece group these articles with iron pipes. The value of the total imports of these two amounted to 53,000*l.* in 1903, and 45,000*l.* in 1904.

**Iron Girders.**

In 1903 Germany, the United Kingdom, and Belgium supplied nearly all the girders used; the first-named country sending about

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*Openings for British Trade.*

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50 per cent. of the total import, and the other two 25 per cent. each. One point to which the importers attach great importance is quick delivery of goods. They are also quick to detect any traces of rust in the girders, and this point is borne in mind by German firms, who are supposed to make use of a preparation which preserves the girders from rust; hence the demand for German girders in the country.

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**ROUMANIA.**

On p. 619 will be found a notice of the Ordinance, published in Bucharest on the 13th March, regulating petroleum concessions on State lands.

**Petroleum  
Concessions.**

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) states that tenders will be opened on 25th April/8th May at the offices of the Municipality, Turnu-Severin, for a concession to supply that town with electric light. Plans, specifications, &c., may be inspected at the above-mentioned offices.

**Electric Lighting  
Plant.**

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**TURKEY.**

In his report for the year 1905 on the trade of Constantinople, H.M. Consul there (Mr. A. T. Waugh) states as regards Irish goods, that there is a certain sale for drills and ducks; table linen and napkins; sheeting, huckabacks, and towelling; handkerchiefs; dress linens; and linings. The demand for Irish linens, he says, has been on the decline in recent years owing, in a great measure, to the increasing demand for foreign cottons. The sheetings which have the greatest sale are Scotch and especially Belgian. The most saleable drills and ducks are Scotch and Bainsley makes.

**Irish Produce  
and  
Manufactures.**

In groceries and provisions, &c., there is a small and constant demand for hams, bacon, butter, whisky, mineral waters and stout from Ireland. Irish biscuits, condensed milk, cured fish and eggs seem to find no market in Constantinople. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,533.)

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

An enquiry has been received at the British Consulate, Chicago, for the names and addresses of British manufacturers of optical glass and rough lenses. Communications from British firms should be addressed to H.M. Consul, British Consulate, Chicago.

**Optical Glass and  
Rough Lenses.**

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### *Openings for British Trade.*

#### **MEXICO.**

The "Diario Oficial" of the 27th February publishes a copy of a contract entered into between the Mexican Government and a representative of the "San Ildefonso Fábrica de Tejidos de lana S.A.," which holds a concession for a railway line from Ferrocarril de Tlalnepantla á México, for the construction of a branch railway line of three feet gauge from Tenayuca Station to Cuantepec.

The "Diario" of the 7th March publishes a notice of an application by Señor Claudio Simon [y Segui, for a concession to utilise for motive power the water of the River Frio to the extent of one thousand litres per second.

#### **FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.**

#### **CEYLON.**

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Principal Collector of Customs at Colombo (Mr. W. H. Jackson), a communication to the effect that a rubber exhibition is to be held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya, on the 13th, 14th and 15th September. It will include everything connected with rubber cultivation, tapping, preparation and manufacture. Entries from Europe should be sent to Mr. E. R. Denham, Colombo, by the 31st July.

#### **BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.**

**Ceylon.**—The report on Ceylon for the year 1904, which has lately been issued by the Colonial Office, states that the United Kingdom held her own with, or improved her position as regards foreign countries in exports to Ceylon of refined sugar, biscuits, iron, angle, and Swedish bar, tinware, cement, and tea chests, which were among the articles given in 1903 as instances of the development of foreign trade in that Colony.

Tables are given in the report containing the figures for the United Kingdom and foreign countries in regard to the articles enumerated, and also in regard to articles in which foreign countries improved their position relatively to the United Kingdom.

The articles enumerated above are the only important imports in which the competition of the foreigner does not show a further advance. The most marked progress made by the foreigner in Ceylon is in imports of cast steel, hardware, machinery, made-up apparel, and cotton piece goods, of which the total value of imports from foreign countries amounted in 1893 to Rs. 7,000, and in 1904 to Rs. 1,273,000.

The report says that it is not possible to analyse the causes at

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work which tend to increase foreign trade, but attention may be called to the fact that the increase in imports by Ceylon of foreign goods is largely in cheap articles, which the German, Belgian, and French manufacturers put on the market in a form which will appeal to the native buyer. Germany exported to Ceylon Rs. 84,000 worth of biscuits, which command a sale almost entirely on account of the boxes in which they are packed; these are of a size suitable for a betel box, or a native woman's work box, and ornamented with attractive, if gaudy designs. Germany exports to Ceylon more beads, images and statues, handkerchiefs, scarves, shawls, pewterware, and zincware than the United Kingdom. The imports in 1904 of fancy articles, lamps, haberdashery, made-up apparel, dyed goods, musical instruments, toilet soap, and toys from Germany show a very large increase on the values imported in 1903. It appears, adds the report, that it is chiefly in the smaller articles, the sale of which is pushed by the commercial traveller, that the foreigner is gaining the market.

Summing up the general condition of the colony, the openings for capital, and the future prospects of trade, the report says:—

"With the present good returns on cocoanut land, the generally satisfactory condition of the tea industry, and the large development in rubber cultivation which may be confidently expected, the condition of the Colony may be taken to be as satisfactory as its revenue would indicate. The openings for capital are numerous." (*Colonial Reports, Annual, No. 481.*)

**Marseilles.**—H.M. Consul-General at Marseilles (Mr. M. C. Gurney, M.V.O.), in his report for 1905, recently issued by the Foreign Office, writes:—

"Letters of enquiry from British merchants and manufacturers continue to be sent to this office direct, instead of through the more convenient channel of the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade. It is preferable that applications should in the first instance be made to that department, much information as to local trade having been supplied to it, and an answer in many cases could be rapidly obtained. Any special enquiry put in the shape of a definite set of questions will be answered with as little delay as possible." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,534.*)

**Constantinople.**—The following extracts from the report of H.M. Consul at Constantinople (Mr. A. T. Waugh) for the year 1905 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,533*), contain suggestions to British traders which supplement those given on p. 549 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal."

Mr. Waugh states his Consulate receives a good many applications for help in collecting bad debts, and adds that it is possible in some cases to help effectively. There are various ways in which unofficial persuasion or pressure can be brought to bear upon debtors; and,

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whenever possible, this is done. If this fails, a lawyer is recommended who can take legal proceedings; and by treaty the Consulate has the official right to watch lawsuits undertaken by British subjects before the Turkish courts. British firms who require assistance in such matters should write direct to the Consulate, giving all necessary details, and mentioning the agent in Constantinople through whom the business was done. It must be remarked, adds Mr. Waugh, that in many cases these bad debts arise out of business done through agents whom the Consulate would not have recommended had enquiries been made about them. To do business in Constantinople the first essential is a competent and reliable agent.

Frequent enquiries as to whether the Consulate gives information as to credit are received and answered. In Mr. Waugh's opinion it is most desirable that British firms should avail themselves freely of this means of protecting themselves against those who are known in Constantinople as the "Black Band."

With regard to the small direct representation of British manufacturers, Mr. Waugh states that in the first four weeks of this year one of the leading British merchants in Constantinople received visits from 15 travellers from Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Frankfort, Hamburg, and Zurich, but not one from the United Kingdom. The Frankfort house sells principally British goods. Surely, says Mr. Waugh, these might be sold direct from the United Kingdom. A Berlin tie house does nearly all the business in Pera. British trade in waterproofs is threatened from Hamburg and Berlin, which send travellers constantly, and yet British waterproofs have a great reputation among the Turks. In other branches of trade Mr. Waugh is informed that British iron tubes cannot be sold in Constantinople because they are too dear, British sole leather because the manufacturers will not take the trouble to suit the market, goloshes for the same reason, and so on. Mr. Waugh goes on to say:—

"These constant visits of foreign travellers are creating a taste for foreign fancy goods, hosiery, &c., which threatens to diminish the demand for British articles. This can only be remedied by our following the foreign methods. If we want to sell our goods in Turkey we must take the same trouble to secure our customers as we do in the United Kingdom. Where competition is so keen those wares find a sale which can be bought with the least trouble to the buyer.

"A step in the right direction has been taken in the last few years by the establishment of several British firms of commission agents in Constantinople. We require more commission agents; and we require, above all, that manufacturers at home should give their business to these agents, and should take the necessary trouble to work up their sales.

"If any British firm is sufficiently interested to write and ask particulars of what can be done here in any special line, I shall use my best endeavours to procure replies to any questions put."

## ENCOURAGEMENT OF LOCAL INDUSTRIES IN BRITISH INDIA.

A resolution has been issued by the Department of Commerce and Industry, Calcutta, and published in the Indian press, with reference to the system under which Indian and English made stores are purchased for the use of Government Departments in India. Various changes have been made in recent years with the object of facilitating supply, and of promoting the encouragement of Indian industries. The Government of India have decided that the matter should now be referred for examination to a Committee.

The Committee will ascertain definitely the procedure which in practice is adopted at present for the purchase of stores. They will report on the defects in that procedure, more especially with reference to the question of facilitating purchases from, and of affording greater encouragement to local industries, and they will formulate a set of rules for general adoption designed with the object of removing defects in the existing system. The Committee will also enquire into the ability of firms to undertake a much larger volume of business than is at present entrusted to them; the Committee will also report as to the comparative prices of locally manufactured and of foreign articles; and will enquire whether imported articles locally purchased have in general given satisfaction as regards quality.

The Committee will also report respecting the advisability of prescribing strict rules, requiring Government officers to purchase locally manufactured articles in all cases where such articles are available, and of calling upon them for explanations in cases where these rules are transgressed; and further upon the possibility of devising a system under which all Departments of Government will be informed of the adoption of a local, in place of an imported, product in any part of India.

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## IMPORT TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

The following statement showing the value of the principal and other articles of merchandise imported into Cape Colony during the six months ended the 31st December, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, is compiled from statistics received from the South African Customs Statistical Bureau. It is important to note that prior to 1st July, 1905, 5 per cent. was added to the original cost (in countries of origin)

*Import Trade of Cape Colony.*

to cover charges for insurance, freight, &c. The increases for the six months ended 31st December last are therefore much greater than actually appear in the table:—

Principal Articles.	July to December.	
	1904.	1905.
<b>Raw Materials</b> ... .. Total	£ 406,000	£ 593,000
Including—		
Coal and coke ... ..	94,000	114,000
Metals, unmanufactured or partly manufactured	53,000	53,000
Oil, mineral or paraffin ... ..	80,000	114,000
Wood, unmanufactured ... ..	92,000	147,000
<b>Articles of Food and Drink</b> ... .. Total	2,619,000	2,598,000
Including—		
Butter, margarine, &c. ... ..	118,000	102,000
Coffee, raw ... ..	174,000	201,000
Corn, grain and flour... ..	619,000	747,000
Meats of all kinds ... ..	355,000	342,000
Milk or cream condensed	144,000	107,000
Spirits (potable) ... ..	115,000	98,000
Sugar and sugar products	326,000	321,000
Tea ... ..	78,000	72,000
<b>Manufactured Articles</b> ... .. Total	5,374,000	5,384,000
Including—		
Drugs and chemicals ... ..	112,000	120,000
Boots and shoes ... ..	374,000	396,000
Hardware and cutlery ... ..	421,000	328,000
Iron manufactures (other than machinery)	259,000	253,000
Machinery† ... ..	514,000	487,000
Paper manufactures and stationery	359,000	317,000
Apparel and slops ... ..	412,000	516,000
Cotton manufactures ... ..	431,000	628,000
Haberdashery and millinery... ..	823,000	811,000
Hats and caps ... ..	95,000	97,000
Woollen manufactures ... ..	109,000	151,000
Tobacco manufactures (cigars, cigarettes, &c.)	100,000	122,000
Wood manufactures (furniture,† &c.)	350,000	280,000
Agricultural implements ... ..	66,000	65,000
Earthenware and glassware ... ..	148,000	106,000
Jewellery and silver plate ... ..	71,000	82,000
Railway and tramway material (not rails)§	94,000	52,000
Vehicles (including motor vehicles)	135,000	121,000
<b>Articles imported through Parcels Post</b> ... ..	181,000	165,000
<b>Articles imported for use of Government</b> ... ..	627,000	354,000
<b>Specie</b> ... ..	*	65,000
<b>Total imports</b> ... ..	10,138,000	10,289,000

\* Less than 300*l*.

† Including carpets in 1904.

† Including locomotives in 1905.

§ Including locomotives in 1904.

## RUSSIAN STATE SPIRIT MONOPOLY.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg (Mr. C. Spring-Rice), has forwarded the following memorandum on the subject of the financial results for 1904 of the Russian State spirit monopoly:—

“The spirit monopoly, which was introduced experimentally in four Governments on 1st January, 1905, has been extended gradually, and by the middle of 1904 its operations covered all the Provinces of European Russia and Siberia (Finland excepted). Comparing the yield of the beer and spirit excise before the introduction of the monopoly with that of the beer excise and the spirit monopoly after the introduction of the latter, the results are as follows: Before introduction, 30·7 millions sterling; after introduction, 42 millions. Allowing for extra expenditure in connection with control, &c., the result shows an increased revenue of 9·83 millions.

“In 1904, the population of the districts served by the monopoly was 127 millions. There were 2,368 distilleries, 335 bottling establishments, 28,209 establishments for sale. The amount of spirits sold was 189 million gallons, or less than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per head. There was a slight reduction of the consumption as compared with the preceding year, owing to the comparatively poorer harvest, and the diminished purchasing power of the population.

“The gross yield in 1904 was 57 million sterling, and the expenditure 16·7 million, giving a net yield of 40·3, or 683,000*l.* less than the preceding year. The expenses of production were nearly 400,000*l.* more than in 1903.

“The movable and real property possessed by the Crown in connection with the monopoly was valued at 10·7 millions sterling.”

It will be seen, says Mr. Spring-Rice, that the returns are satisfactory to the Government exchequer, as the yields are nearly 10,000,000*l.* superior to those derived by the State from the spirit and beer excise before the introduction of the spirit monopoly. The net revenue has, however, fallen off as compared with that of the year preceding the returns now published, which relate to 1904. This is attributable to the inferior harvest of 1903, which diminished the purchasing power of the population, and also to increased cost of production.

It is important to bear in mind that the introduction of the spirit monopoly resulted in increasing the Government revenues at the expense of the resources of the local administrations, and that the increased profit of the State implies the withdrawal of funds from the local bodies, which were generally employed for purposes of local improvement and education.

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## CONDITION OF TRADE AT NEWCHWANG.

The following information, relating to the condition of trade at Newchwang during the last quarter of 1905, is based on a despatch which has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Pekin (Sir E. M. Satow, G.C.M.G.):—

The season was a late one and the last steamer did not leave Newchwang until 5th December. There was a rush of business after the plague restrictions were withdrawn on 11th November, and a large amount of goods was brought in.

There is, however, a great accumulation of imports in the town and the difficulties and expense of transport to the interior are so great that trade is in an unsatisfactory state. Cart hire is extremely high. As regards transport by the Chinese Eastern Railway, some facilities are now granted. Only one train per day is available. At present anyone is allowed to send goods by this train, but arrangements are being made to open Railway Transportation Offices at Newchwang and it may be presumed that in the near future goods will only be allowed to be sent through these offices.

With the conclusion of peace and the prospect of expansion of trade in Manchuria some signs of commercial activity in the port might be mentioned:

A Chamber of Commerce of foreign merchants, including Japanese, was formed on 19th October. A Japanese-Chinese Traders Association was formed in December for periodical discussion of mercantile matters. One of the well-known German firms in China opened a branch there on 18th August. On 28th October they announced that they had been appointed Agents for the Russo-Chinese Bank. The firm are reported to be desirous of resuscitating a direct export trade in hides, wool and bristles which used to exist, but was subsequently diverted in Chinese hands to an indirect trade *via* Shanghai or Tientsin.

The manager of the Shanghai Branch of one of the large British Banks in the East visited Newchwang in October with the view of ascertaining the prospects for a foreign bank in the port. The British-American Tobacco Company, a British corporation, has opened an agency there, and is actively pushing its business in Manchuria.

Preparations are being made both by Japanese and British firms to provide wharfage and "godown" accommodation on a large scale and according to the requirements of foreign banking business. A foreign bank will naturally advance money only on cargo in "godowns" over which they can exercise the usual control. The want of such accommodation has been a great hindrance to the establishment of a foreign bank, although the Russo-Chinese Bank and the Yokohama Specie Bank under special circumstances both opened here.

Apart from the abnormal quantity of imports brought in in anticipation of a demand in the interior at profitable prices which has not yet been realised, and a great shrinkage in exports caused by the difficulty of bringing down produce from the interior, there have been no notable features in the trade of the quarter. The precautions adopted by the Japanese to prevent the plague spreading from the port to the interior accentuated the situation.

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## TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

With reference to the notice on page 315 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 15th February last respecting the **Operation of Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act, 1905.** Commonwealth "Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act, 1905," the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a Proclamation, dated 14th February, 1906, notifying that the above-mentioned Act will come into operation on 8th June, 1906.

The "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 10th February last contains a Supplement (No. 59), dated 9th February, 1906, giving **Customs Decisions.** relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Acid, formic—	
As other acids ... ..	Free.
Book-backs—composed of leather and metal—	
Turnlock for fitting into book covers—	
As manufactured stationery ... ..	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Buckles for apparel, leather covered—	
As minor articles for apparel ... ..	Free.
*Buckles and grips, with textile material attached, for use to complete the manufacture of stocking suspenders—	
As apparel and attire and articles, n.e.i. ... ..	25 % <i>ad val.</i>
Engine, turbo blowing—	
As machinery, n.e.i. ... ..	12½ % "
Hair frame and comb combined—	
As brushware and combs (toilet), &c. ... ..	15 % "
Lime juice cordial and orange syrup (non-spirituous), artificially prepared—	
As lime juice and other fruit juices ... ..	9d. per gallon.
Oil, fir-tree—	
As insecticide, disinfectants ... ..	Free.
Paper, waxed, cut into sizes for wrapping confectionery—	
As paper, n.e.i.... ..	15 % <i>ad val.</i>
Perambulator parts, forming sets constituting complete perambulators—	
As vehicles, n.e.i., and parts, n.e.i. ... ..	20 % "
Weed killer, a chemical compound of arsenic—	
As drugs ... ..	Free.

\* Revised decision.

### NEW ZEALAND.

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 8th March last giving a **Customs Decision respecting Sateen Sleeve-linings.** decision under Order No. 792, respecting the importation of "sateen sleeve-linings" into New Zealand, the Board of Trade have now

### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

received a Commissioner's Order (No. 794), dated 16th January, 1906, revising the previous decision as to the size of sateen sleeve-linings that may be imported free of duty into the colony, viz.:—

“Sateen printed and striped sleeve-linings, 39 ins. *to* (instead of ‘*by*’ under order No. 792) 40 ins., of such colours, patterns, and textures as may be approved by the Commissioner.”

#### **BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.**

A copy of the “British Central Africa Gazette” for 31st January last has been received which contains an Ordinance (No. 1 of 1906) empowering the Commissioner to exempt, by notice in the “Gazette,” any distilled or alcoholic liquors from the payment, in part or in whole, of the import duty of 15s. per proof gallon prescribed by the “British Central Africa Liquor (Amending) Ordinance of 1905.”

It is also provided in the Ordinance that no licence to import shall be necessary in respect of liquors so exempted, and also that such liquors shall be exempted from the operation of section 3 of the Liquor Ordinance of 1904, and may thus be sold to natives.

The same issue of the “Gazette” contains a notice, dated 31st January, 1906, issued under the provisions of the above-mentioned Ordinance No. 1 of 1906, exempting the following articles from the import duty prescribed by the “Liquor (Amending) Ordinance of 1905”:—

#### **Liquor (Amending) Ordinance, 1906.**

#### **Import Duty on Scents and Perfumes.**

All scents and perfumes containing distilled or alcoholic liquors.

The notice, at the same time, provides that the duty on such articles shall be 10 per cent. *ad val.* on importation into the Protectorate.

A further notice of the same date is also published in the “Gazette” prescribing an annual licence fee of 3*l.* for the sale of liquors in the Protectorate, in lieu of the licence prescribed by the “British Central Africa Liquor Ordinance, 1904.”

#### **NORTH-WESTERN RHODESIA (BAROTZILAND).**

With reference to the notice on p. 595 of the “Board of Trade Journal” for 28th December last, respecting the entry of North-Western Rhodesia (Barotziland) into the South African Customs Union from 1st December, 1905, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Colonial Office, copies of Government Notices (Nos. 119 of 1905 and 4 of 1906) giving the Customs Regulations to be observed in respect of goods imported from or exported to places beyond the limits of the Customs Union.

#### **Customs Regulations.**

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***NORTH-WESTERN RHODESIA  
(BAROTZILAND)**—*continued.*

These Regulations, which take the place of those promulgated under the "Customs Duties Proclamation (Barotziland), 1904," may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

A copy of a High Commissioner's Notice (No. 120 of 1905), dated 5th December, 1905, has been received, noti-

**Ports of Entry.** fying, in terms of Section 23 of the "Customs Proclamation (Barotziland), 1905," that the

Administrator has appointed:—

(a) Livingstone (new township) and Victoria Falls Station to be "Ports of Entry" into Barotziland.

(b) Livingstone to be a "Free Warehousing Port" at which goods imported into Barotziland without payment of duties on importation, may be warehoused under bond.

The Board of Trade have received a further Notice (No. 121 of 1905), dated 5th December, 1905, which

**Special Duties on Bounty-Fed Sugar.** provides for the imposition of special duties, from 1st December, 1905, on bounty-fed sugar imported into Barotziland from the under-

mentioned countries, viz. :—

Countries.	Special Import Duties on		
	Raw Sugar.	Refined Sugar.	Candied Sugar.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Denmark ... .. per 100 lbs.	0 7½	1 3	—
Spain ... .. "	9 8½	9 8½	—
Japan ... .. "	—	—	0 11¼
Argentine Republic... "	5 5	7 2	3 9
Roumania ... .. "	6 4½	8 1	—
Russia ... .. "	2 2¾	2 11¼	—
Chili ... .. "	2 1¾	4 9	—

**GAMBIA.**

The Board of Trade have received from the Colonial Secretary, Gambia, a copy of "The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1906," (No. 1 of 1906), which was assented to by the Governor of the Colony on March 1st last.

**Import Duties on  
Kola Nuts and  
Unmanufactured  
Tobacco  
Increased.**

The Ordinance amends the Customs Tariff Ordinance No. 1 of 1905 by increasing the

duties on the following articles imported into the Colony and Protectorate of Gambia:—

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### GAMBIA—continued.

Articles.	Import Duties.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
	s. d.	s. d.
Kola nuts ... .. per lb.	0 2	0 3
Tobacco, unmanufactured... .. „	0 3	0 4

### FRANCE.

According to a recent French Customs circular, the Customs warehouse at Nancy was to be closed from the 1st March, 1906.

**Closing of Customs Warehouse at Nancy.**

The following decisions relating to the application of the Customs Tariff are contained in recent circulars of the French Customs Department :—

**Customs Decisions.**

*Colours prepared with caseine*, dry or in aqueous solution, are to continue to be dutiable under No. 310 of the Tariff, as colours not specially mentioned, at the rate of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*.

*Fancy articles in the form of watches*, such as sovereign purses, match boxes, stamp cases, &c., generally made of common metal gilt, silvered, oxidised, or nickelled, also *protective cases for watches*, are to be dutiable as imitation jewellery under No. 496 *bis* of the Tariff, at the rate of 2 frs. per kilog. (0·6*d.* per oz. troy).

### FRANCE—ALGERIA.

A French Presidential Decree, dated 9th January, 1906, opens the Customs-house of El-Aricha, in the Department of Oran (Algeria), for the exportation by land of goods passing in transit through Algeria to Morocco.

**Opening of El-Aricha to Transit Traffic to Morocco.**

### FRENCH WEST AFRICAN COLONIES—SENEGAL.

The French “Journal Officiel” for the 14th March contains a Presidential Decree providing that, as an exception to the unified Customs Tariff for the French Possessions in West Africa (noted in the “Board of Trade Journal” for the 4th May, 1905), the former import duty of 25 millimes per metre, with a surtax of 6 centimes per metre on the foreign article, is to be re-imposed on cotton guinea-cloths imported into *Senegal*.

**Import Duty on Cotton Guinea-Cloths.**

\* A translation of this tariff has recently been issued by the Board of Trade as a Parliamentary Paper. [Cd. 2,857. Price 9*d.*]

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*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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**SPAIN.**

With reference to previous notices in the "Journal" on the subject of the revision of the Spanish Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the Bill effecting this revision, as finally passed by the Cortes.

The *ad valorem* limits within which the Spanish Government is authorised to assess specific duties on the various groups of merchandise are fixed as follows:—

The maximum duty on natural and artificial manures, and on the natural raw materials for their manufacture, shall not exceed 1 per cent.

Natural products such as are not produced in Spain, and are employed as raw material by national industry, excepting manures and food stuffs, shall pay a duty not exceeding 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

If the above-mentioned raw material be such as is produced in Spain, the duty shall not exceed 15 per cent. This category shall include vessels, agricultural machinery, cattle, and drugs.

Natural products not employed as raw material, and food stuffs not being articles suitable for taxation for Revenue purposes (*articulos de renta*), shall be taxed up to 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Industrial products shall pay from 15 to 50 per cent. *ad valorem*, excepting such as are not produced in Spain, which shall pay from 10 to 35 per cent.

The following shall be considered as industrial products:—Chemical products, with the exception of those regarded as *articulos de renta* and having an alcoholic basis, and mineral manures and the raw materials destined for their manufacture.

In assessing the above-mentioned percentage rates, account shall be taken of the cost of the raw material; if local production employs home-produced or only imported materials; the degree to which the goods are manufactured; the greater or less difficulty of producing them; the actual or potential development of such production in Spain; and the requirements of consumption.

*Articulos de renta* and products or manufactures which, owing to the difficulties of their manufacture or the recognised advantages of their home production, require exceptional Tariff protection, may be subjected to rates exceeding 50 per cent. *ad valorem*.

The value to be taken as the basis for the assessment of these duties shall be the average value during the last three years of the goods on their arrival at the frontier or at a Spanish port, after adding to the invoice value the costs of transport, insurance, and commission; the valuation being made in gold, and the import duties being fixed and paid in the same currency.

The Import Tariff is to consist of two tariffs to be known as first and second; the second tariff is to be drawn up on the lines described above, and is to be applied to goods from nations according Spanish produce their lowest Customs duties. The first tariff will be formed by adding various surtaxes to the rates of the second tariff, and is to be applied to goods from countries other than those above mentioned.

The duties are to be subject to revision every five years.

The special reduced rates of duty on railway material imported by railway companies under the present tariff are abolished.

Export duties shall be imposed only on the following articles:—Cork in the rough or in sheets or squares; old rags of flax, cotton,

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### *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

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#### **SPAIN**—*continued.*

or hemp, and worn clothing, &c., of these materials; galena and litharge of all kinds, and other lead minerals; argentiferous lead; iron ore; copper ore; copper matte; bones, natural or calcined. The valuation of the above articles for the purpose of assessing export duties is to be made in gold, and the duties also are to be fixed and levied in gold.

A complete translation of the Bill in its final form may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

With reference to the notice at p. 462 of the "Journal"

**All Customs  
Duties to be  
Levied in Gold.**

for the 8th inst., on the subject of the payment in gold of Spanish import and export duties, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Embassy at Madrid, reporting that the Bill providing for the fixing and payment of all import and export duties in gold has been passed by the Cortes.

It is stated in the despatch, on the authority of the President of the Council of Ministers, that the Law will be put into force not later than 30th June next, when the Agreement with Switzerland terminates.

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#### **ITALY.**

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the revised edition of the Italian Customs Tariff, as in force from the 1st March. The new edition embodies all the modifications introduced in the tariff by the new Commercial Treaties with Switzerland, Germany, and Austria-Hungary; as well as the modifications in the "general" tariff referred to in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 30th March and the 20th July, 1905.

According to the "Bollettino Ufficiale" of the Italian Ministry of Finance for January it has been decided that the fee payable for the veterinary examination of cattle passing in transit through Italy is to be paid only at the entrance of the cattle into Italy, and not also on their leaving the country.

**Veterinary Fee  
for Cattle in  
Transit.**

According to the same publication the prohibition against the importation into Italy of hides and skins and other animal products or waste from Egypt, has been revoked by Ministerial Decree of 12th January, 1906.

**Withdrawal of  
Prohibition to  
Import Hides,  
&c., from Egypt.**

## Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

### ITALY—continued.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 219 of the "Journal" for the 1st February, relating to the certificates of origin required by the Italian Customs in the case of certain articles, including cheese, for which the benefits of the Conventional Tariff are claimed, it may be noted that Italian Customs officers have now been authorised to dispense with the certificate of origin in the case of *cheese imported by land*.

### ITALY—NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 598 of the "Journal" for the 28th September, 1905, on the subject of the commercial relations between Italy and Austria-Hungary, the "Reichsgesetzblatt" for the 28th February contains the text of a new Commercial Treaty between the two countries which was signed on the 11th February last and came into force on the 1st March. The following is a translation of Schedule A attached to the new Treaty, containing the duties to be levied on Austro-Hungarian imports into Italy. The rates inscribed in this Schedule are applicable to imports into Italy from the United Kingdom, under the most-favoured-nation clause of the Anglo-Italian Treaty of 1883 :—

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.
			Lire. cts.
1	Mineral waters, natural or artificial ... ..	100 kilogs.	0 50
2	Aerated waters ... ..	"	0 50
4	Beer—		
	In casks or barrels ... ..	Hectol.	3 00
	In bottles ... ..	Hundred	3 00
Ex 8 (a)	Oil of turpentine ... ..	100 kilogs.	3 00
"	Cart greases of all kinds, containing not more than 15 per cent. of mineral oil of a specific gravity greater than 0.875 ... ..	"	5 00
Ex 8 (b)	Benzole and other coal-tar oils, light and limpid, for use as raw materials in the manufacture of artificial organic colours, or of varnishes, lacquers, and similar products ... ..	"	5 00
	<i>Note.</i> —Coal-tar oils included under this heading, in order to be dutiable at the conventional rate of duty, must be denatured, at the cost of the interested party, by means of special substances to be decided upon by common agreement according to the different industries.		
Ex 10	" <i>Diamalt</i> " ... ..	—	Free
12	Chicory and all other substitutes for coffee—		
	(a) Dried ... ..	—	Free
	(b) Roasted, even ground ... ..	100 kilogs.	8 00

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ITALY—NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—continued.**

Tariff No.	Article.	Units.	Rate of Duty.
			Lire. cts.
<i>Ex 3 (i)</i>	Tanning extracts ... ..	—	Free
46	Sulphate of mercury (cinnabar or vermilion) ...	100 kilogs.	80 00
<i>Ex 58</i>	Ceresine, pure or mixed with paraffin ..	"	8 00
<i>Ex 59</i>	Mineral water salts and spring salts of Darkau, Frazensbad, Hall, Hallein, Karlsbad, Marienbad, Zablaez, &c. ... ..	"	10 00
<i>Ex 72</i>	Cart greases—		
(a)	Composed of oil of resin and lime ... ..	—	Free
	Others, containing no mineral oil ... ..	100 kilogs.	5 00
<i>Ex 75</i>	Roots, barks, leaves, flowers, lichens, herbs, and fruits for dyeing and tanning—		
	(a) Not ground ... ..	—	Free
<i>Ex 87</i>	Linen yarn, lye-washed or bleached, single I, measuring to the kilogramme—		
(b)	From 7,000 up to 20,000 metres ... ..	100 kilogs.	17 50
	20,000 " 37,000 " ... ..	"	22 00
	Over 37,000 metres ... ..	"	35 00
	<i>Note to Nos. 87 and 95.</i> —The duties on unbleached linen yarns and tissues shall in no case be higher than those on bleached yarns and tissues of the same category.		
<i>Ex 93</i>	Jute carpets, even with cotton warp—		
(b)	Velvet like ... ..	"	60 00
	Chenille carpets... ..	"	40 00
<i>Ex 95</i>	Linen tissues, lye-washed or bleached, plain, having in warp and weft in a square of 5 mm. side—		
	More than 10 and up to 26 threads ... ..	"	66 40
	" 26 " 45 " ... ..	"	84 00
	" 45 threads ... ..	"	153 60
<i>Ex 95</i>	Linen tissues, bleached, figured or damasked ...	—	Conventional duty on bleached plain tissues.
(e)			
<i>Ex 95</i>	Linen tissues, dyed or woven of dyed yarns ...	—	Conventional duty on unbleached tissues with a surtax of 35 lire per 100 kilogs.
(c) & (e)			
<i>Ex 96</i>	Stout tissues of linen, hemp, or jute, rendered impermeable by means of oil or tar ... ..	100 kilogs.	30 00
(a)	<i>Note.</i> —The conventional duty established for this number is also applicable to stout tissues of linen, hemp, or jute, weighing more than 400 grammes per square metre, rendered impermeable by means of greases, chemical products, or metallic soap.		
<i>Ex 103</i>	Sacks, bed and table linen, towels, handkerchiefs, and curtains simply hemmed ... ..	—	Conventional duty on the tissue increased by 10 per cent.
(a)			
	<i>Note.</i> —Articles included under this heading, with open-worked hems of all kinds made by the sewing machine of the Gegauf or any other system, are not regarded as embroidered, and are subject to the conventional duty on the tissue increased by the surtax of 10 per cent. The fact that weft or warp threads may have been removed is left out of account.		

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ITALY—NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH  
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—*continued.***

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.
<i>Ex</i> 103 (a)	Sacks, bed and table linen, &c.— <i>continued.</i> The same articles with complex open-worked hems are admitted at the conventional duty applicable to the tissue increased by 20 per cent. As regards this species of linen, corners worked in festoon or "spider's web" patterns are not regarded as embroidery, and are not taken into account in assessing duty.		Lire. cts.
<i>Ad</i> 103 (c)	<i>Note.</i> —Tarpaulins made of stout tissues of linen, hemp, or jute, rendered impermeable by means of greases, oil, tar, metallic soap or chemical products, sewn and furnished with buckles, rings, cords, &c., are admitted at the rate fixed for No. 96 (a) increased by 10 per cent.		
<i>Ad</i> 112— 116	<i>Note.</i> —Cotton tissues with rippled surface-dressing produced by the cylinder press machine, are classified, without regard to the rippling, according to the quality of the tissue.		
<i>Ad</i> 119	<i>Note.</i> —Open-woven cotton tissues (veilings), not figured, weighing over 3 kilogs. per 100 square metres, are dutiable as plain tissues according to kind.		
<i>Ex</i> 128 (b)	Mixed cotton tissues—  Mixed with wool in a proportion inferior to 50 per cent. ... ..	...	Conventional duty on the tissue according to kind, + 20 lire per 100 kilogs.
<i>Ex</i> 132 (c) 133 (a)	Horsehair— Curled ... .. Woollen tissues— Of carded yarn, weighing per square metre— 300 grammes or less ... .. More than 300 up to 500 grammes ... .. More than 500 grammes ... ..	100 kilogs. " " "	
(b)	Of combed yarn, weighing per square metre— 200 grammes or less ... .. More than 200 up to 500 grammes ... .. More than 500 grammes ... ..	" " "	185 00 160 00 140 00 250 00 220 00 190 00
(c)	Printed ... ..	...	Conventional duty on the tissue according to kind, + 30 lire per 100 kilogs.
<i>Ex</i> 138 140	Press cloths, of wool or camel hair, weighing more than 1,000 grammes per square metre ... Coarse wares of horsehair— Press cloths, of horsehair or other coarse animal hair, weighing more than 1,600 grammes per square metre, including "étreindelles" and disks or diaphragms for presses, made from these tissues ... Other articles (including cordage) ... ..	100 kilogs. " " "	
<i>Ex</i> 141 (a)	Horsehair tissues— For sieves ... ..	" "	20 00 17 00 30 00

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ITALY—NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—continued.**

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.
<i>Ad</i> 142	<i>Note.</i> —The surtax for sewing for blankets simply hemmed or bound, even with festoon stitch, is fixed at 20 per cent.		
<i>Ad</i> 143	<i>Note.</i> —Carpets in the piece, to be sold by the yard, are not subject to any surtax for sewing, even if the ends are sewn in order to prevent the fraying of the tissues. The surtax for sewing in the case of woollen carpets woven in the piece and afterwards separated, simply hemmed or bound on the two sides, without borders, is fixed at 10 per cent. Other woollen carpets simply hemmed or bound are subject to the surtax of 20 per cent. for the sewing.		
<i>Ad</i> 150	<i>Note.</i> —(i.) Shawls, scarves, and fichus of wool, woven or knitted, printed or not, furnished with fringes of textile materials mixed with silk in a proportion inferior to 12 per cent., pay the duty applicable to the fringes according to the material predominating in weight, with a surtax of 1 lira per kilog. if the fringes constitute the most highly taxed textile material in the finished article. The surtax for the simple making up of shawls, scarves, and fichus of wool, woven or knitted, printed or not, furnished or not with fringes, is fixed at 20 per cent. (ii.) Shawls, scarves, and fichus of wool, black, not embroidered, with silk fringes, or embroidered (even with silk) in one corner only, with or without silk fringes, are dutiable according to the tissue, with surtax of 25 per cent. These articles are not subject to the surtax for sewing. (iii.) Woollen made-up articles for men and boys, and woollen mantles and jackets for ladies, pay the duty applicable to the most highly taxed material, in cases where this material constitutes more than one-tenth of the entire surface of the made-up article. If two or more parts composed of the most highly taxed materials constitute when taken together more than one-tenth of the entire surface, the article pays a duty corresponding to the arithmetical mean of the duties applicable to the most highly taxed materials which enter into its composition.		
<i>Ad.</i> 168	<i>Note.</i> —The surtax for the making-up of fichus, scarves, and veils, black or coloured, of silk or floss silk, figured or not, hemmed, bound, or provided with fringes, is fixed at 20 per cent.		
169	Charcoal ... ..	—	Free
170	Firewood ... ..	—	Free
<i>Ex</i> 171	Wood		
(a)	Common :— Rough or simply trimmed or hewn with the axe ... ..	—	Free

*Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.***ITALY—NEW COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH  
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—continued.**

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.
<i>Ex</i> 171 (a)	Wood—Common— <i>continued</i> . Squared, sawn longitudinally ... .. Small boards for boxes, sieves, and similar articles; hoops of any size ... Cut up for the manufacture of matches <i>Note.</i> —Wooden boards for packing cases; boards or squares not inlaid nor glued, for floors; and, in general, all articles of com- mon wood, even planed, rabbited, or grooved, so far as they are not finished manufactures, are included under No. 171 (a) 2. Boards, squares, or sheets, of common wood for veneering, are included under No. 171 (a) 2, if they are of a thickness of 2mm. or more. Shingles and staves fall under No. 171 (a) 1.	—	Lire. cts. Free
<i>ex</i> (b)	Cabinet makers' wood— Sawn longitudinally ... .. In boards, or inlaid squares for flooring <i>Note.</i> —The dispositions of the existing tariff index respecting the woods dutiable as cabinet makers' wood are maintained in force.	100 kilogs. "	3 00 4 00
172	Oars, poles, and props ... ..	—	Free.
<i>ex</i> 174 (c)	Cork— Bricks made from cork waste ... ..	100 kilogs	5 00
175 (a)	Empty casks, new or used— With wooden hoops ... ..	Hectol. capacity.	0 20
(b)	" iron " ... ..	"	0 30
<i>ex</i> 176 (a)	Furniture and parts of furniture, rough or finished— Not stuffed— Of common bent wood ... .. Other of common wood ... .. <i>Note.</i> —Furniture, not stuffed, of common bent wood, is dutiable under No. 176 (a) 1, even if it is combined with common unbent wood (which may be veneered with common wood), or with straw, cane, or other like plaiting, and with parts turned, perforated, or with ornaments obtained by pressure or by means of the cutting-machine, but not carved. Furniture not stuffed, of common unbent wood, is dutiable under No. 176 (a) 2, even if it is turned, veneered with common wood, perforated, or with ornaments obtained by pressure or by means of the cutting-machine, and combined with plaiting of straw, cane, and the like, but not carved. Furniture, not stuffed, of common wood, with iron parts or other ordinary, non- ornamental accessories of common metal, even nickelled, are not excluded from Nos. 176 (a) 1 and 2. Of cabinetmakers' wood ... .. Veneered, carved, or inlaid ... .. <i>Note.</i> —Furniture, not stuffed, of common wood, with burnt-in or etched ornaments, but not veneered, carved, or inlaid, is admitted at the rate of 15 lire per 100 kilogs. if made of common bent wood, and at the rate of 20 lire per 100 kilogs. if made of common unbent wood.	100 kilogs " " "	7 50 13 00  60 00 60 00

(To be continued.)

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—MONTENEGRO.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of an Austro-Hungarian Ministerial Decree, dated 15th March, providing that the conventional rates of the new Austro-Hungarian Customs Tariff are, until further notice, to be applied to imports from Montenegro, as similar treatment is guaranteed to imports from Austria-Hungary into Montenegro.

**Commercial  
Relations  
between the  
above Countries.**

### PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 514 of the "Journal" for the 15th March, on the subject of the increase of the duty on cotton "splits" under the Customs tariff of the Philippines, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the Act of the United States Congress introducing this increase, and making certain other alterations in respect of the import duties on cotton tissues and on boots and shoes, and of the export duty on coco-nuts. The following is a statement of these alterations:—

(i.) *Classification of Cotton "Splits."*—It is provided that "textiles having a false selvage, on either one or both sides, shall be considered as goods improved in condition and shall be liable, as the textile, to the duties leviable thereon, plus an additional surtax of 100 per cent. This provision applies to all cotton fabrics.

*Note.*—By a false selvage shall be understood an edge obtained by cutting, ripping, tearing, or otherwise splitting the textile in the direction of the warp."

(ii.) *Cotton Tissues.*—Paragraphs 117-120 of the Tariff are altered to read as follows:—

117.—Textiles, plain and without figures, napped or not, weighing 10 kilogs. or more per 100 square metres, unbleached, bleached, or dyed; and

Textiles, plain and without figures, stamped or printed, napped or not, measuring not over 65 centimetres in width, weighing 8 kilogs. or more per 100 square metres; and

Textiles, plain and without figures, not stamped or printed, whatever be their width, weighing 8 kilogs. or more per 100 square metres, having:—

(a) Up to 18 threads, n.w.,\* kilog., 10 cents.

(b) From 19 to 31 threads, n.w., kilog., 14 cents.

(c) From 32 to 34 threads, n.w., kilog., 18 cents.

(d) From 35 to 38 threads, n.w., kilog., 24 cents.

(e) From 39 to 44 threads, n.w., kilog., 28 cents.

(f) 45 threads or more, n.w., kilog., 32 cents.

(g) The same textiles, stamped, printed, or manufactured with dyed yarns: dutiable as the textile, with a surtax of 30 per cent.

*Note.*—Textiles woven with a coloured yarn on the selvage, or with a coloured selvage stripe not exceeding 2 millimetres in width, shall not be considered as manufactured with dyed yarns.

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\* N.W. indicates that the duties are levied on the *net weight* of the tissues.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

118.—Other textiles, plain and without figures, napped or not, weighing less than 10 kilogs. per 100 square metres, unbleached, bleached, or dyed, having—

- (a) Up to 18 threads, n.w., kilog., 18 cents.
- (b) From 19 to 31 threads, n.w., kilog., 27 cents.
- (c) From 32 to 34 threads, n.w., kilog., 32 cents.
- (d) From 35 to 38 threads, n.w., kilog., 36 cents.
- (e) From 39 to 44 threads, n.w., kilog., 40 cents.
- (f) 45 threads or more, n.w., kilog., 50 cents.
- (g) The same textiles stamped, printed, or manufactured with dyed yarns : dutiable as the textile, with a surtax of 40 per cent.

119.—Textiles, twilled or figured on the loom, napped or not, weighing 10 kilogs. or more per 100 square metres, unbleached, bleached, or dyed, having—

- (a) Up to 18 threads, n.w., kilog., 14 cents.
- (b) From 19 to 31 threads, n.w., kilog., 18 cents.
- (c) From 32 to 34 threads, n.w., kilog., 22 cents.
- (d) From 35 to 38 threads, n.w., kilog., 26 cents.
- (e) From 39 to 44 threads, n.w., kilog., 30 cents.
- (f) 45 threads or more, n.w., kilog., 38 cents.
- (g) The same textiles, stamped, printed, or manufactured with dyed yarns : dutiable as the textile with a surtax of 30 per cent.

*Note.*—Textiles woven with a coloured yarn on the selvage, or with a coloured selvage stripe not exceeding two millimetres in width, shall not be considered as manufactured with dyed yarn.

120.—Textiles, twilled or figured on the loom, napped or not, weighing less than 10 kilogs. per 100 square metres, unbleached, bleached, or dyed, having—

- (a) Up to 18 threads, n.w., kilog., 20 cents.
- (b) From 19 to 31 threads, n.w., kilog., 29 cents.
- (c) From 32 to 34 threads, n.w., kilog., 38 cents.
- (d) From 35 to 38 threads, n.w., kilog., 44 cents.
- (e) From 39 to 44 threads, n.w., kilog., 50 cents.
- (f) 45 threads or more, n.w., kilog., 58 cents.
- (g) The same textiles, stamped, printed, or manufactured with dyed yarns : dutiable as the textile, with a surtax of 40 per cent.

(iii.) *Cotton blankets, &c.*—"Carded tissues, in blankets and other articles," manufactured with dyed yarns, are subdivided as follows:—

- (a) Where the number of dyed yarn threads, counted in the warp and weft, does not exceed one-fifth of the total number of threads composing the textile : dutiable under No. 123 (a) of the tariff, at the rate of 8 cents per kilog. (net weight).
- (b) Where the number of such threads does not exceed one-half : dutiable under No. 123 (b), at the rate of 14 cents per kilog.
- (c) Where the number of such threads exceeds one-half : dutiable under No. 123 (c), at the rate of 20 cents per kilog.

The surtax on "blankets, single, or in pairs, *hemmed or bound*," is fixed at 30 per cent. of the duties leviable thereon.

(iv.) *Boots and shoes.*—Paragraphs 223 and 225 of the Tariff are altered to read as follows:—

223.—Shoes or gaiters of calfskin, kid, and similar leather, with elastic or buttons or for lacing—

- (a) For men, size numbered  $5\frac{1}{2}$  or larger, per pair, 30 cents.
- (b) For boys, smaller than size numbered  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , per pair, 20 cents.
- (c) For women, size numbered  $2\frac{1}{2}$  or larger, per pair, 25 cents.
- (d) For girls, smaller than size numbered  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , per pair, 20 cents.
- (e) For babies, per pair, 5 cents.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

225.—Other boots and shoes, fancy, per pair, 50 cents.

Other boots and shoes not specifically provided for—

- (a) For men, size numbered  $5\frac{1}{2}$  or larger, per pair, 30 cents.
- (b) For boys, smaller than size numbered  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , per pair, 20 cents.
- (c) For women, size numbered  $2\frac{1}{2}$  or larger, per pair, 25 cents.
- (d) For girls, smaller than size numbered  $2\frac{1}{2}$ , per pair, 20 cents.
- (e) For babies, per pair, 5 cents.

(v.) *Export duties.*—The export duty on coco-nuts is abolished; but copra, fresh or dried, is still subject to a duty of 10 cents. per 100 kilogs. under No. 402 of the Tariff.

(vi.) *Time of operation.*—It is provided that “all merchandise actually in transit, or in any bonded warehouse of the Philippine Islands at the time of the passage of this Act, may, for a period of 60 days thereafter, be entered at the rate of duty provided by Law existing prior to the passage of this Act.”

### CHINA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of telegraphic information to the effect that goods, irrespective of nationality, are entering Dalny free of duty.

**Imports at Dalny  
Free of Duty.**

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 316 of the “Board of Trade Journal” for the 16th November last, on the subject of the requirement of the Shanghai Customs Authorities that the *numbers* as well as the marks of packages of foreign merchandise should be stated on “Foreign Goods Passes,” when the merchandise is to be re-exported with benefit of drawback, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a full explanatory memorandum on the subject, which has been drawn up by the Acting Commercial Attaché at Peking.

From this memorandum it appears that the regulation is not a new one, but dates from 1886; and was originally framed to facilitate the identification of foreign goods on re-exportation from Shanghai, at which port alone it is applicable. If the serial numbering of packages be found impracticable, one and the same number may be given to each package of a consignment, provided the same number be not used for subsequent consignments. Further, certain articles (*e.g.*, kerosene, potatoes, sugar, flour, rice, coke and coal) are not required to be numbered.

A copy of the memorandum may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ECUADOR.

**New Customs Tariff.** (*Continued from p. 568 of last week's "Board of Trade Journal"*):—

**Article 7.**—The following articles form the 5th class, and shall pay 3 centavos per kilog. gross weight:—

Iron cooking stoves, corrugated iron sheets and iron gutters or ridging; tissue paper, excepting that used for artificial flowers; bags of straw paper, not printed; tin plate, plain, in sheets; zinc in plain sheets or in the rough.

**Article 8.**—The following articles form the 6th class, and shall pay 4 centavos per kilog. gross weight.

Sugar; Chancaca (sugar refuse, 3rd class or less).

**Article 9.**—The following articles form the 7th class, and shall pay 5 centavos per kilog. gross weight.

Machine oil; annatto; alum; apparatus (not of glass) for the manufacture of aerated waters; almonds in the shell; hydrochloric, rectified phenic, nitric, boric and carbonic acids; liquid ammonia; whale oil; codliver oil and its emulsions and jellies; herrings; elevators; hazel nuts; railings for balconies, excepting those made of wood; empty barrels, buckets, pipes and hogsheds of wood, either whole or in pieces; pitch; tar; brass, copper, tin, and bronze, in bars, or unperforated sheets, in the rough or waste articles; cooking utensils of cast iron, enamelled or not; bidets and accessories; iron chains such as those used for ships and boats; calcium carbide; iron safes, over 50 kilos. in weight; wooden packing cases, in pieces; bells; salt meat and pemmican; carriages, whole or in parts; beer; Chile coquitos; tents and tarpaulins; prunes; oiled packing covers; brooms; oakum of all sorts; sculptures of stone of 100 kilos. weight or over; straw envelopes for bottles, when they come alone; forges; dried fruits and other comestibles unprepared, not otherwise specified; jacks for lifting weights; hypochlorite of lime; flour of all sorts; cotton waste; ordinary unscented soap of all kinds; raw hams and bacon; sisal and manilla rope; wire rope and cable; kerosine of 150 degrees or more test; oiled canvas; washers for kitchens or clothes; fine crockery; marble, polished, and mausoleums and monuments in general; maizena; walnuts; candle wicks; straw for brooms; fonts of marble, iron, or other material; printed packing paper; dry or salt fish; iron doors for safes or vaults; raisins; chicha (fermented drink); organs; groats; printed straw-paper bags; bath tubs and bath apparatus and accessories; tapioca and other starch products; wire netting; wines in general, except sparkling and medicinal; glass sheets, not more than one metre square; wine vinegar; ordinary glass or crystal ware; blacksmiths' anvils; broomsticks; kola water; ginger ale; crude petroleum; wooden pegs for boots; sal-ammoniac.

**Article 10.**—The following articles form the 8th class and shall pay 5 centavos per kilog. net weight.

Mortars; gymnastic apparatus; crutches and artificial limbs; sanitary paper; insect destroyers in powder, paste, &c.; rat and insect traps; drawing and illustrated books for students; show cases.

**Article 11.**—The following articles form the 9th class, and shall pay 10 centavos per kilog. gross weight.

Olives, however packed; eau de cologne; raw cotton; shelled almonds; red lead; sulphur; indigo; Prussian blue; almond, castor, linseed, and olive oils; lavender; canary seed; harmoniums; scented toilet waters, viz., Florida, kananga, divina, bay rum; starch of all kinds; billiard tables and accessories imported therewith; borax; bedsteads of wood, iron or other metal; crude wax and ceresine; preserves and food products, not specially mentioned; earthenware jugs; tomatoes in sauce or preserved; fine crystal ware; pickles; indiarubber, manufactured, painted and ornamented for flooring; blue denims,

## *Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.*

### ECUADOR—continued.

corduroy, blue regattas (*duradera y diablo fuerte*); stone sculptures, less than 100 kilogs.; heating stoves; diving dresses; fruits in syrup; bellows for forges; axes and hatchets; cercal foods for children, &c.; cotton rope; syrups, not medicinal; canvas; raw wool; grey domestics; sand cloth and paper; yeast and baking powder for bread; silvered glass; writing and account books, plain or printed; hogs' lard, into the composition of which a maximum of 50 per cent. stearine enters, all others are of prohibited introduction; putty for painters; furniture of all kinds, whole or in pieces, of all materials and coverings; gas and water meters; porcelain articles not otherwise specified; wall paper; pianos; pianolas and similar articles; paint, in paste, powder, or other form; cord and string; flat irons; seed for sowing; oilcloth for floors; cheese; empty sacks; vices for blacksmiths; chalk, not prepared; glass sheets, engraved, decorated, or bevelled; candles, all sorts; medicinal wines; plaster-of-paris; writing ink; pure butter; nails and tacks of any metal, less than one inch, excepting those for furniture and adornment; ordinary paste blacking, such as "Masons" and other similar sorts.

(To be continued.)

## SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

### MAURITIUS.

The Board of Trade have received from the Acting Collector of Customs at Port Louis certain regulations, made by the Governor of Mauritius under the provisions of Article 3 of Ordinance No. 19 of 1905, for the purpose of managing and controlling cargo hulks and receiving ships in the harbour of Port Louis.

These regulations, which came into force on January 15th last, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

### NORWAY.

Referring to the notice on p. 352 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd November, 1905, the general introductory regulations to the new Norwegian Customs Tariff provide that tonnage and light dues shall be paid by vessels importing goods, at the rate of 0·80 kr., and by vessels exporting goods, at the rate of 0·50 kr. per ton.

Regarding the interpretation of these regulations, H.M. Minister at Christiania (Sir A. Herbert, K.C.V.O.) states that ships' dues (tonnage and light dues) are reckoned, in accordance with the regulations of the 14th June, 1879\*, for the conversion of goods to tons (*i.e.* register tons), upon the number of tons loaded or discharged—provided, of course, that the goods are dutiable—but

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\* A translation of these regulations may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

*Shipping and Transport.***NORWAY**—*continued.*

not on a greater number of tons (register tons) than that to which the net tonnage of the vessel amounts, except where goods are carried in deck erections or spaces on the shelter deck that can be closed, but which, on account of certain openings, are not included in the calculation of the gross tonnage, in which case dues are also reckoned upon the number of tons (register tons) to which the goods in these receptacles are equivalent, even if the net tonnage of the vessel be thereby exceeded.

The above-mentioned net tonnage means the vessel's net *register* tonnage (measured tons) as entered in the ship's bill of measurement, which as a rule must not be exceeded, when the goods *are converted*, according to the above-mentioned stowage regulations (from weight or cubic contents) to register tons, *i.e.* to the tonnage equivalent of the cargo.

The carrying capacity of the vessel in tons (*i.e.*, *dead-weight tons*) is left out of consideration, as it is generally very much greater than, and may sometimes even be as much as two or three times as great as, the net registered tonnage.

Nor has the gross tonnage any connection with this matter.

When the cargo of a vessel (loading or discharging) consists of goods both dutiable and duty-free, no notice is taken, in the calculation of the dues, of the amount of free goods stowed, but the dues are reckoned directly upon the number of register tons to which the *dutiable goods alone amount*.

If, for instance, a vessel which, according to her bill of measurement, has a net tonnage of 500 tons, ship a cargo of dutiable and duty-free goods, which together, according to the stowage regulations, are calculated at 800 registered tons, and of which the dutiable goods alone amount to 600 register tons, the dues for these will be reckoned upon the full net tonnage of the vessel (500 register tons), with an additional amount if there are dutiable articles carried in the open deck-erections, as explained above.

There is thus *no reduction* in the net tonnage as regards the 200 register tons to which the stowage of the duty-free articles alone amounts.

If, as a further instance, the same vessel had a duty-free cargo amounting to 600 register tons, and in addition had shipped dutiable goods to the amount of 200 register tons, the dues would be reckoned upon these last-mentioned 200 register tons, notwithstanding that the vessel was more than fully laden with articles that are exempt from duty.

For purposes of tonnage and light dues assessment, such spaces in a vessel as are occupied by goods of the following kinds shall not be reckoned as belonging to the laden portion of the vessel's capacity:—

(1) Hay, straw, wood, ice, bricks, roofing tiles and stone (not mixed with apatite), when the aforesaid goods are being exported.

## *Shipping and Transport.*

### NORWAY—*continued.*

(2) Hay, straw, gypsum, manure and sand which has previously served as packing for goods exported, when the aforesaid goods are being imported. (3) Passengers' luggage, ships' stores and articles for use on board (*e.g.*, coal, fishing tackle). (4) Open boats used by Norwegian fishermen for fishing outside Norwegian territorial waters. (5) Goods imported by the same vessel and in the course of the same voyage on which they were exported.

Tonnage and light dues shall be refunded when the exported goods are brought back into the country by the same vessel and on the same voyage. If only a portion of the cargo be so brought back, the Customs Department shall determine how far, and, in the circumstances to what amount, such refund shall be allowed.

### FRANCE.

A decree appears in the French "Journal Officiel" of 25th March

#### **New Port Due at Honfleur.**

authorising, from the date of promulgation thereof, the collection of a toll of 35 millimes per metric ton of merchandise discharged from all vessels entering the port of Honfleur, excepting regular steamers employed mainly in the passenger service. The proceeds of the toll are to be devoted towards the expenses of upkeep of the life-saving and salvage appliances, and the proper supervision of the quays and warehouses of the port.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a

#### **Registration of Foreign Vessels wrecked on American Coasts.**

copy of an Act, passed by the United States Senate and by the House of Representatives, which reads as follows:—

"An Act to repeal section forty-one hundred and thirty-six of the Revised statutes relating to the admission to registry of repaired foreign wrecks.

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That section forty one hundred and thirty six of the Revised Statutes, as amended, reading as follows: 'The Commissioner of Navigation may issue a register or enrolment for any vessel built in a foreign country, whenever such vessel shall be wrecked in the United States, and shall be purchased and repaired by a citizen of the United States, if it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that the repairs put upon such vessel are equal to three-fourths of the cost of the vessel when so repaired,' is hereby repealed. Approved February 22nd, 1906."

The effect of this is that in future all foreign built vessels wrecked on American coasts which may seek American register can only do so after Congress has legislated upon each separate case.

## MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

A formal investigation was held in the Sheriff Court Room, Dundee, on the 15th March, into the circumstances attending the explosion of a boiler which occurred on the 26th January last. The owners and engineers were held to blame, and were each ordered to pay 10*l.* towards the costs of the investigation.

### AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH-VICTORIA.

In a report to the Secretary of Mines for Victoria, Mr. F. R. Meekison, the Senior Inspector of Mines, states that the principal classes of mining machinery manufactured in Victoria are:—

Enquiry under  
the Boiler  
Explosions Act.

High-pressure engines, compound condensing engines, triple-expansion condensing engines, portable engines, and all classes of boilers, electric engines, gas engines, oil engines, stationary crushing engines for batteries, portable batteries, gold saving appliances, puddling machines, steam pumping plants, electric pumping plants, dredging plants, sluicing plants, diamond drill boring plants, and steam winches.

The machinery has been found more suitable than that which was formerly imported, and companies get the exact design that will suit their requirements. The cost is not more than the imported.

### STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The following statement of the quantity of coal imported into Singapore during the years 1904 and 1905 has been received from the Registrar of Imports and Exports at that port (Mr. A. Stuart):—

From						1904.	1905.
						Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	...	...	53,014*	64,335
Japan	...	...	...	...	...	400,628	261,553
Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	108,358	172,374
Australia	...	...	...	...	...	36,274	66,720
Dutch Borneo	...	...	...	...	...	3,977	22,786
Labuan and Sarawak	...	...	...	...	...	3,231	5,650
Tongkin	...	...	...	...	...	4,613	4,944
Total	...	...	...	...	...	610,095	598,362

\* Includes 10,045 tons of patent fuel.

## *Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

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### RUSSIA.

A communication has been received from the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) giving statistics of the coal production in 1905 in the Polish Coal Production. Dombrovski or Polish coal region, from which it appears that the total yield in 1905 was 213,984,102 pouds (3,423,745 tons), as against 281,793,337 pouds in 1904. The diminution of 24 per cent. is due to the complete suspension of work at the collieries during the general strikes, and to the curtailment of the output at the time of the railway strikes. The total consumption in 1905 amounted to 212,589,650 pouds, of which 88.56 per cent. was sold, and 11.44 per cent. used at the mines themselves. The Dombrovski Basin or Polish coal region is the second in importance of the coal centres of Russia.

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### GERMAN COLONIES.

The "Deutsches Kolonialblatt" (Berlin) publishes as a supplement the text of an Ordinance, dated 27th February, 1906, regulating mining and prospecting for minerals in the German African and South Sea Protectorates, excluding German South-West Africa. This may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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### FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that, by virtue of an *arrêté* published in the "Journal Gold Mining Tax. "Officiel de Madagascar," the basis for the computation of the fixed tax of 5 per cent. on gold extracted from mining claims in Madagascar has been established for the current year at the rate of three francs per gramme.

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### FRENCH GUIANA AND NEW CALEDONIA.

The "Journal Officiel" of 13th March contains copy of a Decree modifying the mining regulations at present in force in French Guiana. The "Journal" of 15th March, contains copy of a Decree modifying the mining regulations of New Caledonia.

Copies of the "Journal Officiel" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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*Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.*

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**ROUMANIA.**

H.M. Minister at Bucharest (Sir C. Greene, K.C.B.) has forwarded a French translation of an Ordinance published in the official "Moniteur," regulating the grant of concessions of State Petroleum lands in Roumania\* together with a form of contract for such concessions. These documents may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

**Ordinance regulating Petroleum Concessions on State Lands.**

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**PANAMA.**

According to a despatch received from H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. Mallet, C.M.G.) the Panama Government has granted a concession to the Union Oil Company of California to establish and work a pipe-line for the transmission of crude petroleum across the Isthmus of Panama. The period of the concession is until the completion of the canal, and 600*l.* is to be paid annually by the concessionnaires to the Panama Government in lieu of port duties.

The Company has also obtained a revocable licence from the Canal Commission for the construction and operation of the pipe-line through the territory of the Canal Zone. The conditions provide that it must be in operation before the 1st of August, 1906, and a monthly sum of 500 dollars must be paid for the support of the public schools of the Canal Zone. Furthermore, oil is to be furnished, at any point selected, to the Railway Company or the Canal Commission at the rate of ninety cents a barrel, so that the fuel can be obtained all along the line of the canal.

The Commission, states Mr. Mallet, has been paying approximately four dollars per ton for Pocahontas coal delivered at Colon, though the last contract was with the Fairmont Syndicate at 3.70 dollars per ton. This Fairmont coal at 3.70 dollars has been thoroughly tested, and found to be no cheaper, and, if anything, less desirable than Pocahontas at 4 dollars. If, as is claimed, three and one half to four barrels of fuel oil are equal to a ton of coal, it is probable that oil, with no added cost of handling, will eventually entirely supersede the use of coal in the Canal Zone.

Mr. Mallet adds that the Union Company have already acquired several steamers by purchase which are being converted into tank steamers, and the plan is to transport oil to the Pacific Terminus, pipe the same across the Isthmus to their steamers, for delivery on the Atlantic coast of the United States and elsewhere.

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\* See "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th January, page 174.

## YARNS AND TEXTILES.

### CHINA.

H.M. Consul-General at Hankow (Mr. E. D. H. Fraser, C.M.G.) alludes to the native dealers of his district being able to obtain from their fellows in Shanghai assorted parcels of piece-goods made up of small quantities of many varieties, and remarks that it would not pay foreign firms to compete in such transactions, which would involve a large stock on the spot, even if they could work on as small margins as the natives.

Indian yarn, he reports, is likewise in the hands of Chinese Shanghai traders, but Japanese yarn tends to fall to Hankow Japanese firms who import direct. The Wuchang mills are doing exceedingly well in Cantonese hands, and the Customs figures are expected to prove their competition to be serious.

### MANCHURIA.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. H. Cooke) reports that a conference has been held at St. Petersburg, at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, on the subject of starting dépôts of Russian goods in the chief towns of Northern Manchuria. Members of the Ministry and representatives of the mercantile community of Moscow were present. Mr. Cooke says the Russian goods referred to would be mostly textiles, and the dépôts would possibly be on the same lines as that opened at Omsk in 1904 by Moscow textile manufacturers.\*

The "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" suggests that this action arises from a report from Vladivostok of the appearance on the local market of a large quantity of Japanese textiles.

## AGRICULTURE.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 24th March, 1906, were as follows:—

Wheat	...	...	...	28s.	4d.
Barley	...	...	...	24s.	4d.
Oats	...	...	...	18s.	8d.

For further particulars see p. 624.

\* See Mr. Cooke's report of Commercial Mission to Siberia, [Cd. 2,518], prices 1s. 3d., obtainable from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.

*Agriculture.***UNITED KINGDOM**—*continued.*

A statement is published on p. 625, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 24th March, 1906, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1905.

The "London Gazette" of 27th March announces the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider and report on the regulations under which the money annually voted by Parliament for the purpose may best be expended in prizes, to be bestowed by the King at the chief Agricultural Shows in Great Britain, for the purpose of encouraging the breed and maintenance of a race of sound horses, or in such other method as the King may approve.

**Royal Commis-  
sion on Horse  
Breeding.**

**RUSSIA.**

The official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg) of the 15th/28th February contains a telegram from its Moscow correspondent, stating that the increasing export abroad of late, mostly to England and America, of wool from Bokhara is causing extreme alarm to cloth dealers of the Moscow region. Most of them consider that prohibitive duties should be imposed against this export, and thus Bokhara wool might again make its appearance at Nijni Fair, and the prices for Russian steppe wool be reduced. In this sense wool dealers have recently approached the Moscow Bourse Committee.

**Bokhara  
Wool Export.**

**PORTUGAL.**

The "Diario do Governo" of 21st March contains a Royal Decree the object of which is to promote the cultivation of cotton in Portuguese Colonial possessions. The Decree lays down conditions on which concessions of land for this purpose may be granted. It exempts cotton from export duties in the Portuguese Colonies, and exempts, under certain conditions, colonial cotton from import duties in Portugal.

The Government is authorised to establish experimental stations for cotton cultivation.

**Cotton Culti-  
vation in  
Portuguese  
Colonies.**

**CHINA.**

H.M. Consul General at Hankow (Mr. E. D. H. Fraser, C.M.G.), reports that arrangements have been made by the Hupei Government for the starting of an experimental tobacco curing establishment in Huang-Kang district, where excellent native leaf is grown. Curing according to foreign methods will at first be carried out, but if necessary American seed will be introduced for the improvement of the cultivation.

**Tobacco  
Cultivation in  
Huang-Kang.**

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 22nd March, 1906, **Cotton Statistics.** was 113,634 (including 15 bales British West African), and the number imported during the twelve weeks ended the 22nd March was 1,322,980 (including 1,159 bales British West Indian and 282 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 22nd March, 1906, 6,565 bales, and for the twelve weeks, 112,011.

For further details see p. 624.

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### FRANCE.

The "Journal Officiel" of 13th March publishes a Decree fixing the rate of the tax on the manufacture of **Alcohol Tax.** industrial alcohol in France for the year 1907 at 1 fr. 72 c. per hectolitre of pure alcohol.

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### SPAIN.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 18th March, contains copy of a Decree appointing a permanent Commission of Sea Fisheries, charged with carrying out scientific investigations on the coast of Spain, the Balearic and the Canary Isles, with a view to developing and systematising the fishing industry. **Appointment of Permanent Commission of Sea Fisheries.**

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### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. B. Spence) reports that two residents in that city have invented a new system of wireless telephony. On the 2nd March experiments were conducted in Trieste in the presence of the Governor, Mayor, and other leading local authorities. The experiments proved entirely successful. **New System of Wireless Telephony.**

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### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul at Galveston (Mr. H. D. Nugent) reports that the foreign trade of Galveston during the year 1905, was the largest ever recorded at the port. There was a substantial increase in both imports and exports, the former being valued at 1,176,619*l.* in 1905, as compared with 591,405*l.* in 1904, and the latter at 29,349,301*l.* in 1905 and 25,212,510*l.* in 1904. As regards foreign imports, cement and rails were the largest items from Europe, but there were also imported in considerable quantities champagne

*Miscellaneous.*

and other wines and liquors, toys, preserved fruits and vegetables, preserved fish, crockery and glass. In regard to values of exports in 1905, Galveston attained the second place in the United States, being surpassed only by New York.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—CALIFORNIA.**

A communication from a trustworthy source has reached the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade as to a dangerous prospectus issued by a firm in San Francisco, relative to certain property which is for sale in the State of California. Further information will be given orally to persons interested by the Commercial Intelligence Branch. at the discretion of the Principal.

**CHINA.**

H.M. Minister in China (Sir E. Satow, G.C.M.G.) has forwarded a report on the census of the population of Shanghai taken in October last, from which have been extracted the following comparative figures showing the number of the foreign residents in Shanghai (exclusive of the French settlement), together with the number of the Chinese population :—

	1900.	1905.
	Number.	Number.
British ... ..	2,691	3,713
Japanese ... ..	736	2,157
Portuguese ... ..	978	1,329
American ... ..	562	991
German ... ..	525	785
Other foreign ... ..	1,282	2,522
Total foreign ... ..	6,774	11,497
Native ... ..	345,276	452,716

H.M. Consul-General at Hankow (Mr. E. D. H. Fraser, C.M.G.) reports that the fur and skin trade in his district seems to be benefiting by the presence of a railway, and a considerable business is being done in them as in goat skins, for which prices have risen 20 to 25 per cent. In wood oil, a rise in the New York market has caused a large business at advanced prices, while hides, on account of better trade in the leather markets, are selling freely at fully 10 per cent. above last season's prices. According to the native press the Japanese are about to start a tannery in Hankow. In Wuchang so many of them have street stalls and peddle wares that special orders for their protection have been given to the native police.

**STATISTICAL TABLES.****Cotton Returns.**

**Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 12 Weeks ended 22nd March, 1906 :—**

	Week ended 22nd March, 1906.	12 Weeks ended 22nd March, 1906.	Week ended 22nd March, 1906.	12 Weeks ended 22nd March, 1906.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American ... ..	76,984	982,241	2,057	51,085
Brazilian ... ..	8,574	89,640	200	4,390
East Indian ... ..	3,104	41,480	725	13,062
Egyptian ... ..	23,631	193,628	3,282	41,714
Miscellaneous ... ..	1,341*	15,991†	301	1,760
Total ... ..	113,634	1,322,980	6,565	112,011

\* Including 15 bales British West African.

† „ 1,159 bales British West Indian and 282 bales British West African.

**Corn Prices.**

**Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,\* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 24th March, 1906, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.**

		Average Price.					
		Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
<b>Week ended 24th March, 1906</b>	... ..	28	4	24	4	18	8
<b>Corresponding week in—</b>							
1899 ... ..	...	24	11	26	2	16	11
1900 ... ..	...	25	10	24	11	17	2
1901 ... ..	...	26	0	24	9	18	0
1902 ... ..	...	27	2	27	2	20	7
1903 ... ..	...	25	2	22	4	17	0
1904 ... ..	...	28	2	22	8	16	7
1905 ... ..	...	30	9	25	2	17	0

\* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

## Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

**Account** showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 24th March, 1906, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 24th Mar., 1906.	Correspond- ing Week in 1905.
<b>Animals, living :—</b>			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves ... ..	Number.	11,621	12,408
Sheep and lambs ... ..	"	3,725	5,510
Swine ... ..	"	—	—
Horses ... ..	"	478	205
<b>Fresh Meat :—</b>			
Beef ... ..	Cwts.	102,037	85,733
Mutton ... ..	"	76,495	101,218
Pork ... ..	"	11,081	10,618
<b>Salted or preserved meat :—</b>			
Bacon ... ..	Cwts.	112,939	108,877
Beef ... ..	"	3,774	1,360
Hams ... ..	"	17,356	26,095
Pork ... ..	"	4,552	3,312
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	16,970	17,539
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	11,314	17,313
<b>Dairy produce and substitutes :—</b>			
Butter ... ..	Cwts.	99,823	105,276
Margarine ... ..	"	21,115	24,832
Cheese ... ..	"	35,712	24,734
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums ... ..	"	—	—
" cream ... ..	"	13	91
" condensed ... ..	"	21,343	20,293
" preserved, other kinds... ..	"	53	406
Eggs ... ..	Grt. Hndr.	440,348	318,356
Poultry ... ..	Value £	16,262	33,166
Game ... ..	"	4,900	3,016
Rabbits, dead (not tinned) ... ..	Cwts.	1,142	5,717
Lard ... ..	"	45,349	38,595
<b>Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—</b>			
Wheat ... ..	Cwts.	1,340,000	2,514,100
Wheat meal and flour ... ..	"	291,000	242,400
Barley ... ..	"	294,301	510,300
Oats ... ..	"	154,300	334,800
Peas ... ..	"	10,040	46,170
Beans ... ..	"	10,870	16,950
Maize or Indian corn ... ..	"	1,218,100	584,200
<b>Fruit, raw :—</b>			
Apples ... ..	Cwts.	24,031	112,770
Apricots and peaches ... ..	"	16	21
Bananas ... ..	Bunches.	73,819	51,589
Cherries ... ..	Cwts.	—	—
Currants... ..	"	—	—
Gooseberries ... ..	"	—	—
Grapes ... ..	"	1,005	508
Lemons ... ..	"	17,234	6,018
Oranges ... ..	"	167,079	194,096
Pears ... ..	"	665	176
Plums ... ..	"	75	127
Strawberries ... ..	"	—	—
Unenumerated ... ..	"	560	51
Hay... ..	Tons.	2,051	953
Straw ... ..	"	1,714	1,235
Moss Litter ... ..	"	1,899	2,600
Hops ... ..	Cwts.	1,969	690
Locust Beans ... ..	"	38,959	12,338
<b>Vegetables, raw :—</b>			
Onions ... ..	Bushels.	87,471	62,499
Potatoes ... ..	Cwts.	14,759	23,720
Tomatoes ... ..	"	33,455	24,908
Unenumerated ... ..	Value £	9,867	13,695
<b>Vegetables, dried</b>	Cwts.	583	640
Preserved by canning... ..	"	5,270	10,374

## GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

### TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1906, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1s. 2d. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7s. 7d. for the first and 4s. 3d. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900-1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transshipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

### THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"\* is published by the Board of Trade about the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which will appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Trade Unions 1902-1904; Report of the Royal Commission on Trade Disputes and Trade Combinations; Report of Departmental Committee on Vagrancy; Seasonal Fluctuations in the Clothing Trades; and Relief of the Unemployed.

### OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

*Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom, 1904. Supplement to Volumes I. and II. [Cd. 2,668.] Price 5s. 10d.*

This return contains abstract and detailed tables showing the *countries of consignment* of imports and *countries of ultimate destination* of exports. In Volumes I. and II. of the "Annual Statement of Trade," imports are generally classified as received from the *countries whence they were shipped direct to the United Kingdom*, and exports to countries possessing no seaboard are credited to the *country in which the port of discharge is situated*. The present volume also contains statements of the consignments from each country retained for consumption in the United Kingdom, or the "special" imports from each country into the United Kingdom.

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\* It can be purchased through any newsagent, price, 1d.

*Government Publications.***LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.**

The following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1906, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price	No.	Place.	Price
	<b>EUROPE—</b>			<b>Netherlands Indies—</b>	
	<b>Belgium :</b>		3524	Finances ... .. 1905-6	1 <i>d.</i>
3532	Antwerp, Shipping and Navigation ... .. 1905	7 <i>d.</i>		<b>Portugal :</b>	
	<b>Denmark :</b>		3537	Oporto ... .. 1905	1 <i>d.</i>
3525	Denmark (Supplementary) ... .. 1904	1 <i>d.</i>		<b>Servia :</b>	
	<b>France :</b>		3529	Servia ... .. 1904	1½ <i>d.</i>
3528	Indo-China ... .. 1903-4	7 <i>d.</i>		<b>Turkey :</b>	
3534	Marseilles ... .. 1905	1 <i>d.</i>	3533	Constantinople ... .. 1905	2 <i>d.</i>
644	<i>French Octroi System</i> ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>		<b>AMERICA, NORTH—</b>	
	<b>German Empire :</b>			<b>Mexico :</b>	
3526	Bavaria... .. 1904 and part of 1905	1 <i>d.</i>	3531	Mexican Budget ... .. 1905-6	½ <i>d.</i>
3523	German Trade with India... ..	1 <i>d.</i>		<b>United States of America :</b>	
645	<i>Agriculture in Germany</i> ... ..	1½ <i>d.</i>	3536	Finances ... .. 1904-5	1½ <i>d.</i>
	<b>Italy :</b>		643	<i>Coal Industry of the United States in 1904</i> ... ..	3 <i>d.</i>
3530	South Italy ... .. 1905	1½ <i>d.</i>		<b>AMERICA, SOUTH—</b>	
	<b>Netherlands and Colonies :</b>			<b>Brazil :</b>	
3535	Amsterdam ... .. 1905	2½ <i>d.</i>	3521	Santos ... .. 1902-4	2 <i>d.</i>
3527	Netherlands Finances 1904-5 to 1905-6	1½ <i>d.</i>		<b>WEST INDIES—</b>	
			3522	Cuba (Supplementary) 1904	2 <i>d.</i>

**Treaty Series.**

The following number of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1906, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.		Price.
	<b>EUROPE—</b>	
1	<b>France :</b> Agreement between the United Kingdom and France additional to the Money Order Convention of December 8, 1882 ... ..	½ <i>d.</i>
2	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting telegraphic communication between Mauritius and Réunion ... ..	½ <i>d.</i>

**COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.**

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

**Annual.**

No.	Place.	Price.
481	Ceylon ... ..	3½ <i>d.</i>

## THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

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The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The Governments of India, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, and Queensland, also the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73 Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see next page).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 1*d.* All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

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## SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

**India.**—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

**Canada.**—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the direction of the Agent-General.

The Commercial Agent in charge of these offices deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

**Queensland.**—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

**Transvaal and Orange River Colony.**—A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, on the lines of the agency established at the same address by the Government of Cape Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Superintendent in charge of the Office deals with, and supplies free, information in regard to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c.

*March, 1906.*

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## IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Imperial Institute at South Kensington was transferred by Act of Parliament to the control of the Board of Trade on the 1st January, 1903. The work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Imperial Institute is chiefly occupied with the systematic investigation and illustration of the principal resources of India and the Colonies. It includes:—

1. The Galleries, containing collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the natural and commercial resources of British Possessions. These are open free to the public daily (except on Sundays) from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special arrangements may be made for the visits of schools and other educational institutions. Information concerning India and the Colonies, their products, industries, prospects for emigration, &c., may be obtained on verbal application at the Central stand in the Galleries, or applications may be addressed in writing to the Director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W. Publications furnishing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining and other industries of India and the Colonies, as well as those relating to emigration, may also be obtained on application at the Central stand. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room attached to the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

2. The Scientific and Technical Department with extensive laboratories specially equipped for the purpose of investigating problems connected with tropical agriculture and development. In this Department new or little known natural products from India and the Colonies, and commercial products from new sources, received through the Government of the countries concerned, are examined with a view to their valuation and utilisation. The expert staff of the Department is also engaged in the collection of information from all sources on these and similar subjects.

3. The Library and Reading Rooms, containing a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, which are regularly supplied with the principal official publications of India and the Colonies, and with many of the principal newspapers, periodicals and maps of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

4. Conference and Meeting Rooms which are available under certain conditions for the purpose of meetings, lectures, &c., on subjects of importance to India and the Colonies.

5. The "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." This publication, which is now issued quarterly, includes reports on investigations conducted at the Imperial Institute, and also special articles relating to recent developments in tropical agriculture and in the utilisation of raw materials. The "Bulletin" may be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., price one shilling per number.

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